



3

MUST-WATCH CLASSIC CHRISTMAS SPECIALS



ANTHONY DANIELS
The man inside C-3PO
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Ottawa metro



Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, DECEMBER 18-20, 2015

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**Ottawa taking steps to
relocate monument for
victims of communism**
metroNEWS

Minister of Canadian
Heritage Melanie Joly
gives the announcement
Thursday, THE CANADIAN PRESS

City's annual funeral costs reach \$321K

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**Low-income
residents can
get funding for
associated fees**



**Lucy
Scholey**
Metro|Ottawa

There's a cost to dying in Ottawa — and that price tag has climbed to more than \$300,000 this year.

Low-income Ottawa residents on financial assistance can get the costs of their funerals funded by the city. From January to October, the city handed out a total of \$321,094 in financial assistance for burials and cremations, according to documents obtained by Metro through the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

"(The city) will look after you alive and then once you pass away, they will make arrangements with cemeteries and funeral homes," said Beechwood Cemetery president Roger Boulton.

There has been land set aside for "common ground" interment at Beechwood since long before the city's social assistance program existed — as early as the 1900s, esti-

mates Boulton.

Nowadays, those receiving payments through Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program may be eligible to have their funeral fees covered. The province and the city split the costs.

Low-income residents who are not on social assistance may still qualify for burial funds through the city's essential health and support program. The city then claws back those funds through the deceased's estate.

Funeral costs are "not covered beyond the legal requirement for respectfully addressing the deceased," noted Aaron Burry, general manager of community and social services, in an email.

480

**Number of payments
handed out between
January and the end of
October.**

\$856

**Average payment for a
burial, versus \$541 for a
cremation.**

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Lolo's dog has 5,000 followers



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Lolo 

Talk to your doctor



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Burger restaurant challenges anti-halal-topping feedback

FOOD

Owner quotes prime minister in defence of menu options



Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

An Ottawa burger joint quoted Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to respond to anti-Muslim Facebook commenters who apparently didn't like the inclusion of halal beef bacon on the menu.

In a sponsored post on Facebook, Burgers 'N Fries Forever advertised the burger topping — made from the belly of a cow as opposed to a pig — alongside a photo of three Muslim women wearing a hijab about to take a

bite out of a burger.

Since the post was created this fall, there have been a number of people who have posted anti-Muslim comments below the post, according to co-owner Jamil Bhuya.

"I had to delete a lot of them. It's not pretty language. It was a lot of borderline racist, Islamophobic comments. Basically, people saying, 'I'm not going to eat here because you include

Muslims,'" said Bhuya.

Bhuya said most people don't realize all of the meat at BFF is halal and always has been since the restaurant opened on Bank Street. He just started to advertise it on social media and thought to include Muslim women since Ottawa is a multicultural city.

Meat that is halal generally means the animal is alive and healthy at the time of slaughter, which involves slitting the throat

to drain the blood.

Shocked by the negative feedback, Bhuya decided to address the online haters with a blunt retort, taking a page out of Trudeau's book.

"We're trying to give access to a large demographic of Canadians who require this in their diet. As our prime minister put it so eloquently: IT'S 2015," read a post on BFF's Facebook page.

"If you're poisoning the posi-

tive vibes we've created, we don't want you in our restaurant."

Most businesses are usually neutral when it comes to responding to negative feedback, but Bhuya said he wanted to draw a line in the sand.

"There's a lot of negativity in the world toward that kind of topic," he said. "We don't want to contribute to it, we just simply (want) a burger joint that serves halal beef bacon."



COMMUNITY OTTAWA POLICE FUNDRAISE FOR LOCAL CHARITIES Quartermaster supervisor Bill Keeler shows off some Ottawa police-branded fleece sweaters at city hall Thursday. Police were selling merchandise — coasters and coffee mugs branded with the police logo — from its own gift shop to raise money for charities, like the Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa. **JOE LOFARO/METRO**

POLICE

Carding ban regulation criticized by activists

Ontario plans to implement new rules on the controversial practice of police carding early in 2016, but its proposed crackdown has been condemned by community activists, civil libertarians and police as other provinces keep close watch.

The Canadian Civil Liberties Association calls carding a national problem and recently criticized the police chief in Regina, a city with a large indigenous population, for his insistence of a need for checks.

Last fall, Ontario Community Safety Minister Yasir Naqvi promised to end carding, prompting cheers from groups that com-

plain street checks by police unfairly target young black, brown and indigenous men and women.

But those same groups, including the African Canadian Legal Clinic and the Campaign to Stop Police Carding, say they're



There is not a single group that supports this.

Howard Morton, Law Union of Ontario

disappointed because the draft regulation doesn't match Naqvi's pledge.

The regulation says street checks should only happen as police investigate a specific crime,

and officers must tell people up front they do not have to answer any questions. Naqvi promised to ban arbitrary stops on March 1. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Star Wars going somewhere solo

THEATRE

Charlie Ross bringing his one-man sci-fi 'oddy' to town



Emma Jackson
Metro|Ottawa

A long time ago in a province far, far away, 10-year-old Charlie Ross started watching Star Wars.

And then he watched it again. And again and again.

Now the actor spends less time watching and more time performing as he tours his One Man Star Wars Trilogy across the globe.

And on March 23, he'll bring his "theatrical oddity" to Ottawa for the first time,

performing at CentrepoinTE Theatre to support the Ottawa Fringe Festival.

Ross's one-man show runs through the best parts of episodes four, five and six in just 75 minutes – but skips the special effects.

It's an homage, Ross said, with a dash of sass concerning the many flaws that make Star Wars "the best B-movies ever made."

Ross grew up near Prince George, B.C., with little access to TV. Owning only a few VHS tapes, he watched Star Wars constantly — about 400 times before he turned 11, he said.

Later, as an emerging actor, a one-man show seemed the best route to long-term employment.

The show is now approaching its 15th anniversary.

Ross has tickets to see the new Star Wars: The Force Awakens on Friday night, and he said the new episode will likely fac-

+ BACKGROUND

Ottawa Fringe Festival manager Greg Clark said the non-profit group has been trying to book Ross for more than a year, because it's a "great success story" for fringe theatre.

The wait was worth it, he said, to announce the show when The Force Awakens is creating so much buzz.

Tickets are \$45 each, with a portion supporting the festival ahead of its 20th anniversary next June. Subscribers can buy tickets Dec. 26. Public tickets will be available Jan. 6.

tor into future shows.

"A solo show continually morphs, changes, adjusts," he said.



Canadian performer Charlie Ross says his show is an homage to the sci-fi saga. CONTRIBUTED

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MOVIES

The Force Awakens tickets still available

Too late, isn't.

Star Wars: The Force Awakens has been smashing sales records since October, but there are still a few tickets available this weekend if you're willing to look.

Screenings for the seventh Star Wars instalment began on Thursday. Many Ottawa shows are sold out, but most have a handful of tickets left for shows on Friday, Saturday and Sunday — although don't expect to see a 3D or VIP show.

Fans should also be prepared to sit in the front row or to fill single seats around the theatre.

We don't know exactly how many advance tickets have been sold — Cineplex said only that "hundreds of thousands" of Canadians will see the film this week-

end — but it's clear the force is strong with this one.

Consider the amount of food the theatre chain expects to sell: nine million ounces of pop — about 133,000 two-litre bottles — and five million cups of popcorn. The amount of M&Ms consumed could line the streets from here to Kemptville.

The "sheer unprecedented demand" for Star Wars tickets prompted Cineplex to release a third block of tickets Dec. 10, adding 160 more show times nationally, said Cineplex spokesperson Sarah Van Lange.

"Star Wars has the highest demand for advance tickets that Cineplex has seen for any film, ever," she said.

EMMA JACKSON/METRO

+ SHOWTIMES

At Lansdowne Cineplex, Friday tickets are available for the 3:45 p.m. 3D show, and for regular shows at 12:30, 7 and 10:15 p.m.

On Saturday, there are a few prime and VIP seats up for grabs, and more than 30 regular seats available in the 10:45 D-Box show.

At SilverCity Gloucester, none of the 3D and regular shows for Friday or Saturday are listed as sold out — yet.

3D screenings run from 11:15 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Regular shows are at 12:15 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:45 p.m. and 10 p.m.

At the Landmark Cinema in Kanata, there are 11 regular screenings and 13 3D shows between from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

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Beer in grocery stores means expansion, jobs

GROWTH

Retail rollout to brew up 100 positions at Beau's



Tom Pechlof
Ottawa Business Journal

Calling it a very exciting day, Beau's All-Natural Brewing Co. CEO Steve Beauchesne said Tuesday that selling his beer in grocery stores in Ontario will eventually mean at least 100 new jobs at the brewery's headquarters in Vankleek Hill.

"When it's fully rolled out, we can expect this to come close to doubling our sales through the retail channel. Obviously, it's going to take some time," Beauchesne said.

For now, 58 stores across the province are licensed to

sell six-packs of beer, including eight in Ottawa.

By May, it's expected beer will be in 150 grocery stores across the province, with that number eventually climbing to 450.

Beer in grocery stores will be the same price it is at the Beer Store and LCBO outlets.

"This is kind of the starting point," Beauchesne said. "The biggest issue for craft brewers has always been access to the customer."

With that access now potentially coming in spades, Beauchesne said Beau's is investing to meet growing demand.

"This spring we'll be adding, I believe, six new fermenters and should be able to more than meet the initial demand and be ready for future growth as well," he said. "We're at about 150 employees at this point and it's going to add easily another 100 when it is fully



Beau's All-Natural Brewing Co. CEO Steve Beauchesne expects his company's revenue to double once the sale of his beer in Ontario grocery stores is fully in place. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

rolled out."

It's not just Vankleek Hill that will benefit from the ripple effects of the new sales channel, he said.

"That's the wonderful thing about this," Beauchesne said. "We're one of 130 breweries in the province, spread out over a number of different towns of all sizes. When you roll this out in terms of what it means for employment and investment into Ontario communities, it's huge."

For now, Beau's is being sold in 19 Loblaw stores across the province, and the brewery is



The biggest issue for craft brewers has always been access to the customer.

Steve Beauchesne, CEO of Beau's All-Natural Brewing Co.

in talks with most of the other 39 stores that are licensed to sell suds.

Beauchesne said Beau's met with Loblaw to present its portfolio of beers. While he expected its signature Lug Tread brand to be selected, he was pleased to see the store also pick up its Tom Green stout

and Kissmeyer, Beau's Nordic pale ale.

Beauchesne said Loblaw stores launched the sale with craft beer making up 50 per cent of its inventory.

"As they expand, they're committing to keeping that (ratio) and I think that's huge," he said.

RETAIL

Most stores lacking stock



Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

The majority of Ottawa grocery stores on tap to now sell beer still don't have any brews on their shelves.

Only three out of the eight local grocery stores have been selling beer since Tuesday, when the province officially opened up the floodgates for beer sales in grocery stores across the province.

The Loblaws on Baseline Road in College Square, the Real Canadian Superstore on Eagleson Road in Kanata, and the Independent on Main Street in Stittsville have a limited selection of craft and big name beer for sale.

Three Ottawa-area Sobeys, the Farm Boy on Tenth Line Road in Orleans, and the Metro in Barrhaven are still dry. They all said Thursday they expect to have beer on the shelves in the coming weeks.

Catherine Thomas, a Loblaw spokeswoman, said the grocer doesn't release sales publicly, but said she was "very pleased" with early results.

"We're also blown away at the response to our craft beer assortment, including the fact that our first top-seller is a small Ontario brew. Sales are important, but so is the sense that we're providing customers access to new, local products," she said in an email statement.

+ SELLERS

Grocery Stores in Ottawa that will be selling beer

The hours beer is being sold in the stores listed below are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday to Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

- **Loblaws:** 1980 Baseline Rd.
- **Real Canadian Superstore:** 760 Eagleson Rd.

- **Brown's Your Independent Grocer:** 1251 Main St. (Stittsville)
- **Farm Boy:** 2030 Tenth Line Rd.
- **Sobeys:** 700 Terry Fox Dr.
- **Sobeys:** 840 March Rd.
- **Sobeys:** 193 Metcalfe St.
- **Metro:** 3201 Strandherd Dr. METRO



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A rendering of the first two phases of the Westgate Shopping Centre redevelopment with two buildings, public green space in the middle, and the future three buildings in the background.

CONTRIBUTED

Big development plans for old mall

REAL ESTATE

Westgate could be replaced with mixed-use towers



Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

An “ambitious and aggressive” development may slowly reshape the old, downtrodden Westgate Shopping Centre.

RioCan Real Estate Investment Trust wants to demolish the city’s oldest indoor mall (including the quirky but beloved Monkey Joe’s restaurant) and build five new towers up to 36 storeys. They would house 1,100 new residential units, plus, as is the style of RioCan, open new retail ventures on site.

Coun. Riley Brockington, who represents the neighbouring River Ward, called the development “ambitious and ag-

gressive” in its scale and size. It should take about 25 years before it’s completed.

The Westgate Shopping Centre was built in the 1950s and, although it has seen better days, it’s a popular hub for many folks in the neighbourhood, from seniors to stroller-pushers.

“It is an important community gathering place and we don’t want to lose sight of that,” said Kitchissippi Coun. Jeff Leiper, noting that he’s working with RioCan to keep that alive.

The Westgate Shopping Centre sits in his ward, which is partly known for its development battles. But residents seem more “open-minded” to this project, Leiper said, partly because it’s not springing up in a low-rise building neighbourhood.

Cameron Ketchum, president of the Carlington Community Association, said many folks are hesitant about this new project, given its size and potential traffic impacts. But the neighbourhood lacks a nearby grocery store, and some people

don’t have easy access to transportation.

“It’s not just a matter of convenience for the community on the whole — there is a basic needs issue at play,” he said.

There’s currently a Shoppers Drug Mart on site, which would also come down in the redevelopment, but also make way for a new Shoppers.

RioCan owns 340 shopping malls across the country.

The developers have yet to submit an application to the city. A public consultation was held this week at the Best Western Hotel.

The project may grace the planning committee agenda next fall. There will be another public consultation sometime thereafter.

“

It is an important community gathering place.

Coun. Jeff Leiper

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Machete seized in arrest

WEST END

Result of three-hour manhunt for suspected assaulter



Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa police arrested a man wielding a machete Thursday afternoon after a three-hour manhunt in the city's rural west end.

The man was being sought in relation to an assault investigation near Dwyer Hill Road and Highway 7.

They had asked the public to avoid the area as they searched for the man with the help of the Ontario Prov-

incial Police.

The hunt began around 8:30 a.m. and ended peacefully around noon in a nearby wooded area when heavily-armed tactical officers found the man and arrested him without incident.

The suspect remains in custody of the Ottawa Police Service. There is no word yet if any charges will be laid.

Police spokeswoman Ca-

+ DESCRIPTION

Police described the suspect as a white man, measuring five feet nine inches tall, with dark hair, a dark beard, wearing a black sweater and jeans.

role Lavigne said the investigation is still ongoing.

DONATIONS

Officer helps exceed goal in purse drive

The generosity of Ottawa residents has exceeded Det. Sylvie Reaney's expectations by a long shot after receiving 3,000 purses filled with feminine hygiene products.

The Ottawa police officer is teaming up with Heidi Danson of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa to donate the purses to women's shelters.

As of Nov. 24, the pair had

collected just over 300 purses and was aiming to reach a goal of 1,000. On Thursday, Ottawa police said they have surpassed that goal by 2,000.

"It's one of those things that you don't think about when you consider making a donation to a homeless shelter and so sanitary products get overlooked," said Danson in a media release.

JOE LOFARO

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Crown prosecutor Mark Holmes cross examines Sen. Mike Duffy (not shown) at Duffy's criminal trial in Ottawa on Thursday in this courtroom sketch. GREG BANNING/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRIAL

'My life is not about money': Mike Duffy

Human error and Senate convention — not graft or greed or desperate financial straits — were all that lay behind expense claims now at the heart of Mike Duffy's criminal trial, the embattled senator told an Ottawa courtroom Thursday.

On his second day of cross-examination, Duffy was grilled on his per diem claims, including those filed from a holiday in Florida and a trip to B.C. for a cancelled political fundraiser that he turned into a chance to visit family.

But Duffy took issue with what he saw as the premise of the questions from Crown prosecutor Mark Holmes — that he was doing it all for the money.

"My life is not about money, Mr. Holmes. If it were about the money, I'd still be at CTV," the former broadcaster told

the court.

"My life is about trying to do the right thing, be helpful to people and make a contribution."

Duffy, who has pleaded not guilty to 31 counts of fraud, breach of trust and bribery, said that in all his many years as a senator, he was only alerted to problems with his claims maybe three times.

Central to Duffy's defence is the argument that he committed no crimes but was left caught up in a web of complex and arcane rules that made it impossible for any single senator to know exactly what to do.

Among the Crown's arguments is that Duffy was claiming expenses on the basis he was a resident of P.E.I., when in fact he was not.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Police searching for robber

Ottawa police are on the lookout for a man who robbed a Baseline Road convenience store. Police say the man entered a convenience store at about 3:15 a.m. on Dec. 11 and demanded cash, indicating he had a gun.

Police say there was an altercation between the

man and the store clerk, and during the scuffle the clerk was struck in the head with a phone. The man fled the store with an undisclosed amount of cash and met a second suspect outside, police say.

The suspects were last seen running northbound on Navaho Drive towards Iris Street. METRO

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Province calls for review of doctors

HEALTH-CARE

Proposal outlined in Liberal paper

Ontario is proposing major changes to its \$50-billion health-care system, including monitoring the performance of doctors already fuming over fee cuts imposed by the Liberal government.

"This is about better co-ordinated care and a more seamless, positive experience by patients and caregivers," said Health Minister Eric Hoskins.

A Ministry of Health discussion paper suggests an expanded role for Liberal-created Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs), and shutting down the Community Care Access Centres (CCAC) created by the previous government.

The province budgets \$90 million a year for the 14 LHINs, which are responsible for doling out \$25 billion in spending, or half of Ontario's health-care budget.

Earlier this month, auditor general Bonnie Lysyk found none of the LHINs had ever met all of the targets in 15 performance areas, and the Liberal government responded by relaxing the targets for some of them.

"The Ministry has not developed ways to measure how effectively LHINs are performing as planners, funders and integrators of health care," said Lysyk.

The discussion paper said the LHINs would be responsible for "planning and performance management" of family doctors.

The Ontario Medical Association questioned the government's commitment to the reforms given fee cuts of nearly seven per cent imposed on doctors this year.

"Strengthening patient-focused care, which the government has indicated is a key priority of these reforms, cannot be achieved while the government continues to cut funding for physician services," said OMA president Dr. Mike Toth.

"Given the magnitude of the changes being considered and

the lack of details provided, Ontario's doctors have concerns with the timeline laid out for discussion."

However, the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario praised the discussion paper as "bold and visionary," and said shutting down the CCACs and giving LHINs more power was a good idea.

"Having two parallel bodies, each responsible for different aspects of our health system, has hindered the system's capacity to be fully integrated," said RAO president Vanessa Burkoski.

The government wants to make it easier for people to get a family doctor, and to be able to see that primary health-care provider quickly when sick. It also wants to better co-ordinate care as patients move from hospitals to get treatment closer to home, while also reducing levels of bureaucracy, said Hoskins.

"Our proposal would improve communications and connections between primary health-care providers, hospitals and home and community care,"



Bonnie Lysyk, Ontario's auditor general, tables her 2015 annual report during a press conference at Queen's Park in Toronto on Dec. 2. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

he said.

The New Democrats said the discussion paper won't fix the problems in Ontario's health-care system unless the Liberals stop cutting hospital services.

"The government cannot seriously expect to improve care for patients while closing hospital beds, undermining trust with doctors, and forcing hundreds of layoffs," said NDP Leader Andrea Horwath.

drea Horwath.

The Ontario Hospital Association said it was eager to participate in the discussions on reforming the province's health-care system.

Nurses urged the government to quickly integrate 3,500 care co-ordinators currently working at CCACs into local health centres, family health teams and hospitals.

"Strengthening inter-professional primary care and positioning it to take on the role of care co-ordination is essential to achieving timely access and a hallmark of a high-performing health system," said the RAO's Burkoski.

Hoskins said he hoped to introduce legislation enabling the proposed health reforms early in the new year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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McGuinty's ex-aides face breach of trust charges

OPP PROBE

Emails related to gas plant cancellation were destroyed

Ontario Provincial Police laid criminal charges Thursday against two top aides to former premier Dalton McGuinty in a gas plants scandal that cast a cloud over his final days in power.

David Livingston, McGuinty's former chief of staff, and Laura Miller, the deputy chief who went on to work for British Columbia Premier Christy Clark, are each charged with breach of trust, mischief in relation to data and misuse of a computer system to commit the offence of mischief.

The charges stem from the destruction of thousands of government emails about the Liberals' decision to cancel planned gas plants in Oakville and Mississauga prior to the 2011 election. The province's auditor found the move will cost ratepayers up to \$1.1 billion.

McGuinty's lawyer, Ronald Caza, issued a statement Thursday saying the OPP had made clear last June that the former premier was not the subject of their investigation.

"Today's events again confirm there was no wrongdoing on the part of the former premier," Caza said.

Miller issued a statement announcing she had stepped down as executive director of the B.C. Liberal Party, and accused the OPP of having a bias against her because of a complaint she filed with the Ontario Independent Police Review Director.



The remains, as of May 2014, of the 800-megawatt gas-fired power plant in Mississauga, Ont., a project cancelled by the then-Liberal Government of Ontario. CHRIS YOUNG / THE CANADIAN PRESS

The director ordered the OPP commissioner to hold a police misconduct hearing for Det. Const. Andre Duval, but the commissioner "resisted" this finding by appealing it to the Superior Court of Justice of Ontario, said Miller.

"Officers involved in a substantiated complaint should not have been allowed to continue investigating," she said in her statement as she vowed to vigorously defend herself against the charges in court.

"Every Canadian expects and deserves impartiality and fairness in police charging decisions. I do not believe that to be the case here."

Both Livingston and Miller are scheduled to make their



The government co-operated fully with this investigation and will continue to do so.

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne

first court appearances in Toronto on Jan. 27. Like Miller, Livingston's lawyer has also denied he did anything wrong.

Documents released during the investigation showed Livingston and Miller compiled a list of senior Liberal staffers in the then-premier's office whose computers would be purged. The OPP alleged in court documents that the two spent \$10,000 to hire Miller's partner, Peter Faist, a computer expert who was given a special password by Livingston to wipe

clean at least 20 hard drives in the premier's office.

The OPP served search warrants at provincial government offices in Toronto during the investigation, seeking the electronic mailbox and its backup tapes for Miller and Livingston, between May 1, 2012 and Feb. 11, 2013 — the day Kathleen Wynne was officially sworn in as premier.

Police said then that Livingston was under investigation for breach of trust, but lawyers for Miller and Faist had said their

clients were not the focus of the OPP investigation, so the charges against Miller came as a surprise to many.

It was the Liberals' initial refusal to hand over gas plant documents to the legislature's justice committee that sparked a contempt debate that eventually forced McGuinty to resign as premier under a cloud of scandal in October 2012.

Wynne has apologized repeatedly for the gas plants scandal, which the opposition parties called "an expensive Liberal seat-saver campaign."

The premier said Thursday that all of the events happened before she came to power, and the OPP made the decision to lay charges independently.

"It was a surprise in terms of the timing," Wynne told The Canadian Press in a year-end interview. "The government co-operated fully with this investigation and will continue to do so."

Last year, Wynne's Liberals shut down legislative committee hearings before Miller and Faist could be called to face questions about the wiping of the hard drives.

The premier defended the decision Thursday, saying the committee had already heard thousands of hours of testimony.

"It was time to write the report," she said. "I think that the information that was necessary was in the public."

The Progressive Conservatives said it was disgraceful police had to lay charges against senior Liberals for destroying government documents.

The New Democrats said people deserve better from their governments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CONTROVERSY

Players in the scandal

Here are key players in the long-running gas plant scandal:

Dalton McGuinty

McGuinty, first elected as Ontario's premier in 2003, was re-elected with a minority Liberal government in October 2011.

In that election, his party saved all their seats in the Mississauga-Oakville area where two controversial gas plants were cancelled after local opposition. In October 2012, McGuinty abruptly announced a plan to resign.

David Livingston

Livingston was McGuinty's chief of staff as the gas plants scandal reached its boiling point. In 2013, police said he was under investigation for breach of trust in relation to the deletion of records related to the plants' cancellation, but he denied breaking any laws.

Ontario Provincial Police alleged in a court document that it was Livingston who brought in an outside tech expert to wipe clean dozens of computer hard drives in the outgoing premier's office before it transitioned to premier-designate Kathleen Wynne.

Laura Miller

Opposition parties alleged she was among senior officials in McGuinty's offices who conspired to pressure the Speaker of the legislature to change a preliminary ruling that found the Liberal government in contempt of parliament over the release of records on the gas plants. Miller defended herself, saying her emails on the matter — which the opposition parties pointed to as proof of pressure tactics — were misinterpreted and that she had done nothing wrong.

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It's back to the drawing board

POLITICS

Memorial for communism victims gets a total overhaul



Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

For the controversial memorial to the victims of communism, it's back to the drawing board: a new location, a new design and a smaller budget.

On Thursday, the federal government squashed their predecessors' much-maligned plan to build the memorial on land southwest of the Supreme Court building.

That location was opposed by Ottawa city council, community and architectural groups and Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin.

Heritage Minister Mélanie Joly said the memorial will instead be built at the Garden of the Provinces and Territories, a few hundred metres to the west.

Joly said she consulted more than 30 people, including opposition party critics, and there was consensus that the memorial should be moved there.

"It is a place clearly accessible to residents and visitors," she said.

Joly also decried the "extremely political" process by which the proposed location was chosen by the former Conservative government, saying it lacked openness and transparency.

"The process of this monu-



Minister of Canadian Heritage Melanie Joly at Thursday's announcement in Ottawa. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ment was too political, too divisive and ultimately far from its goal of remembering the horror of victims of communism," she said.

The move is pending approval from the NCC's board of directors.

The design of the memorial, which has also come under criticism, will be scrapped.

Joly said a consultation process and new design competition for the monument will be launched in the new year, with a view to completing the memorial by 2018.

The planned \$5.5-million

budget for the memorial is also no more, but Joly said the federal government is still helping to fund it.

It's an important monument that ought to be celebrated, she said.

\$370,000

The Stephen Harper government had already spent \$370,000 on the troubled memorial to communism victims.

"But at the same time, the process has to be an open, transparent and inclusive one. And that's exactly why we're doing this right now."

The federal government's contribution to the project will be capped at \$1.5 million, half of the project's new cost. The project's proponent, charity organization Tribute to Liberty, will be responsible for the other half.

The previous government had already spent \$370,000 on the memorial, Joly said.

Ludwik Klimkowski, chair of Tribute to Liberty, said al-

though the project would ideally be finished by Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017, the group supports the new location and funding arrangement.

"We support the minister when it comes to the process of making this unifying and without any controversy," he said.

Environment Minister and Ottawa Centre MP Catherine McKenna, who said during the election campaign that the memorial's proposed location should be moved, said she was pleased with the move.

"This is clearly what residents of Ottawa Centre had

THE SITE

Garden of the Provinces and Territories?

It's a 1.6-hectare site at the west end of Sparks Street, on Confederation Boulevard. It's located between Christ Church Cathedral and Library and Archives Canada.

The NCC originally suggested this location for the memorial, before the Conservative government chose to move it in 2012.

Heritage Minister Mélanie Joly said there was consensus — even among the opposition critics that she consulted — that it's the best location for the memorial to the victims of communism.

MARK WOODS/METRO

expressed to me," she said. "What I'm looking for is for the public to have an opportunity to provide their comments and their vision for the design."

Mayor Jim Watson said although he would have preferred to see no taxpayer money go toward the monument, the new site is much more appropriate.

"I'm very pleased that the government listened to the public," he said.

Conservative heritage critic Peter Van Loan expressed "disappointment" at the delay in a statement.

"The critical priority is that the Victims of Communism Memorial proceed," he said. "This is a matter that must transcend partisanship."

ANALYSIS

So who is Tribute to Liberty?

Much of the opposition to the memorial's former location was a perceived lack of public consultation.

The process was shrouded in mystery. That extended to Tribute to Liberty, the charity spearheading the project.

Tribute to Liberty chair Ludwik Klimkowski was on hand at Thursday's announcement by Heritage Minister Melanie Joly, and expressed his support for the new location.

The charity was established in 2008 with the goal of establishing a memorial to the victims of communism.

Millions of Canadians can trace their origins to countries that have been ruled by totalitarian communist regimes.

They received NCC approval for a memorial in Sept. 2009. The NCC originally suggested it

be erected at the garden of the provinces and territories. But in 2012, the Conservative government proposed a new location: a parcel of land southwest of the Supreme Court building long set aside for a Federal Court building to complete a "judicial triad."

Conservative cabinet ministers threw their support behind the project, and the government pledged funds toward building it.

Tribute to Liberty is run by a nine-member board of volunteers who represent different

cultural communities affected by communism.

"That project brings all those communities in a multicultural fashion that we are so proud of in Canada," Klimkowski said Thursday. "That elevates this beyond anything else."

Klimkowski expressed no concerns at raising the group's \$1.5-million share of the project. "We are committed to the matching funds of the federal government, and I have no hesitation in saying that we will meet our commitment," he said. MICHAEL WOODS/METRO



We're committed to the matching funds of the federal government, and ... we will meet our commitment.

Ludwik Klimkowski, Tribute to Liberty chair

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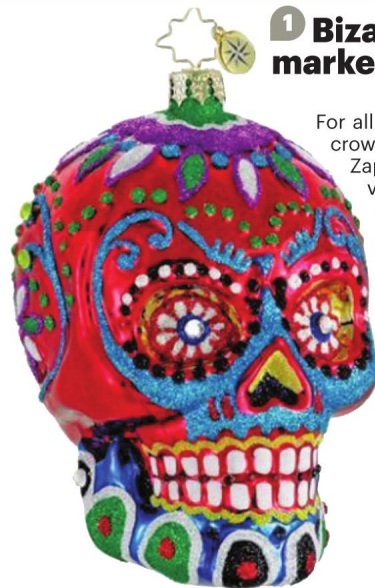
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5 THINGS TO DO IN OTTAWA THIS WEEKEND

The countdown to Christmas has begun but, if you follow Metro's list of things to do, we guarantee it won't be an average winter weekend. Make merry and invite your friends to accompany you on last-minute shopping missions, Korean dance concerts and edible architecture contests. **HALEY RITCHIE** METRO

1 Bizarre Baazar pop-up market (Saturday)

For all the last-minute Christmas shoppers: ditch the mall crowds and check out Saturday's vintage pop-up market at Zaphod Beeblebrox from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Independent vendors will be selling unique stocking stuffers and gifts — and you can get a drink while you browse. There is no cover, but children 14 and younger must have adult supervision.

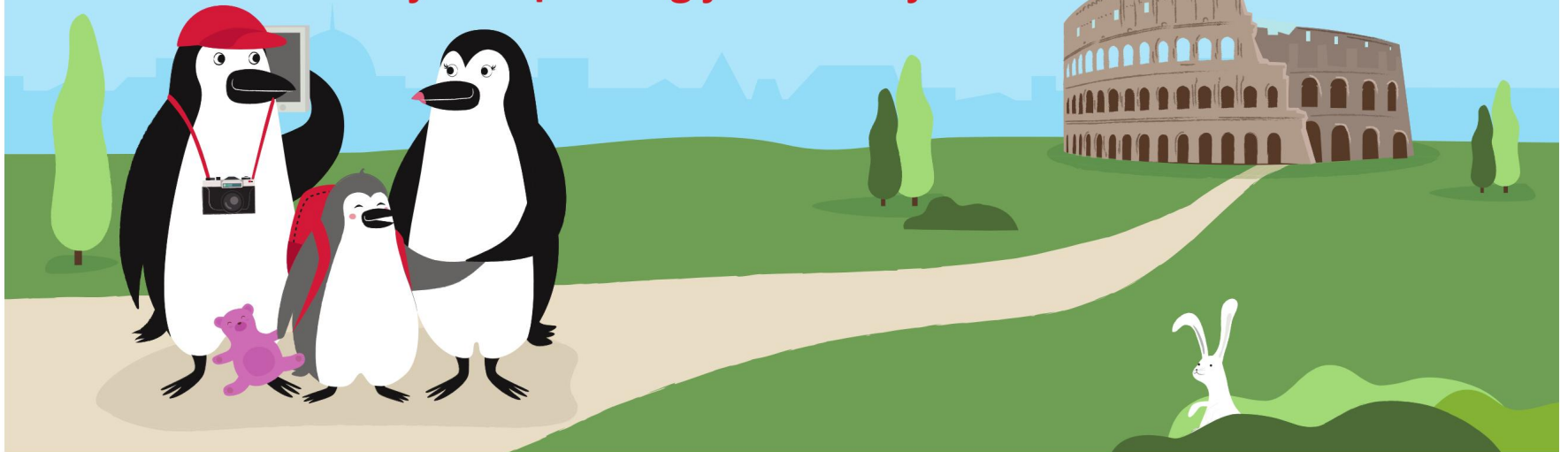


2 Christmas lights walk (Sunday)

Enjoy Ottawa's festive light displays on foot — meet up with the Ottawa Voyageurs Walking Club at City Hall on Sunday at 5 p.m. for a 5-kilometre or 10-kilometre walk around the downtown. If you prefer to take in the lights for yourself, the "Christmas Lights Across Canada" display by heritage Canada continues until Jan. 7. Lights turn on from 4:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. and the magical lightscapes is projected on parliament from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.



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3 K-Pop Fest (all weekend)

Hosted by the Korean Embassy, consider Ottawa's World K-Pop Festival to be your introduction to wild world of Korean pop bands. Cheer on Canada's best K-pop cover bands at a free show starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Museum of History in Gatineau on Saturday night. Lip-syncing will be accompanied by intricate dance routines and the audience is encouraged to participate with cheering and a lot of waving glow sticks.

4 Gingerbread House Competition (all weekend)

Time is ticking to enter the gingerbread house contest at the Canadian Agriculture and Food Museum. Entries can still be dropped off at the museum until Sunday and prizes include a birthday party at the museum, a one-year household membership and a special gift basket.

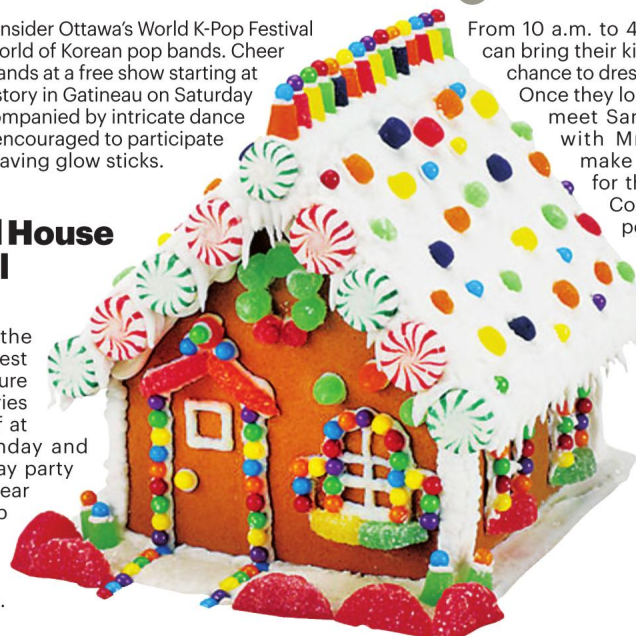
Entries will be put on display and winners will be announced on the website on Jan. 7. Contest details at available at cafmmuseum.techno-science.ca.



5 Elves at the Estate (Saturday)

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, parents can bring their kids to Billings Estate for a chance to dress up as a Christmas elf.

Once they look the part kids can meet Santa, read stories with Mrs. Claus and make a secret gift for their parents. Cost is \$6 per person.





Revelers at Dominion City's holiday party. JORDAN DUFF/FOR METRO

A beery retrospective on 2015

THE BOTTLENECK

Jordan Duff



This will be my last The Bottleneck article in 2015, and so it seemed apropos to look back at the year we've had.

In 2015, 50 new breweries opened in Ontario, bringing the provincial total over 300. There are also new outlets for craft beer. As of this month, beer is now available in grocery stores across the province, including stores in Ottawa.

Other notables include Mill Street being bought by Labatt's Brewing, ending its run as Ontario's largest independent craft brewery.

Let's recall that local business Brew Donkey fought authority — and author-

ity didn't win. Finally, new friends we welcomed this year included Tooth & Nail, Waller St., Cartwright Springs, Nita Beer, Stalwart Brewing and many more. Fair to say it's been a heck of a year.

But what about 2016? Gazing deeply into my Magic 8 Ball, I asked if there would be more local beer in Ottawa's future. The answer: As I see it, Yes. Thanks Magic 8 Ball.

According to the Ontario Beer Network, there are six Ottawa breweries currently in the planning stages, and if we're lucky, we'll see them next year.

New breweries and the growth of craft beer have been trending for a few years and that should keep rolling along in 2016. I don't foresee an oversaturation

of the craft beer market anytime soon, but I do believe a more sophisticated drinker, armed with more options than ever before, will put pressure on brewers to produce high-quality beer. Special releases, one-offs or punny names won't be enough in this evolving beer scene. The beer has to taste good. From the consumer's perspective, this is all positive stuff.

I also anticipate more traditional styles — like lagers, pilsners and light ales — will see a little more love. These styles have been cheapened and misrepresented by mass production and over-saturation but that

doesn't mean they aren't pleasant brews. This leads me to my spotlight on Tuque de Broue.

Nicolas Malboeuf is opening Tuque de Broue in Embrun in 2016 with a focus on crisp and clean beers. They are already available through numerous licensees and will soon have their own bricks-and-mortar home.

A trained sommelier, Malboeuf explained to me that nothing cleansed his palate after a day of sampling deep and robust wines like a cold golden ale or lager. While craft beer is definitely a growing market, he notes that there isn't a lot of focus on milder beers as the

independent brewers have, for the most part, distanced themselves stylistically from the macro breweries. Not everyone likes a complex brew but they may still want a local beer.

Craft beer is now an established entity but not everyone is a fan of extreme flavours. Tuque looks to fill that gap but introducing a local and easy drinking pale ale.

So there's my 2016 clairvoyant prediction. Do with it what you will.

But that's 2016 and we're still in 2015: let's end the year with a big complex flavourful beer-cocktail. The kind folks over at Algonquin College's bartending program have provided me with a gift for my holiday readers, an embarrassingly decadent beer-cocktail.

Thank you, Prof. Antonios P. Vitaliotis, for the Flying Choco-Nog (à la mode):

1. Gently pour one bottle of The Chocolate Manifesto by Flying Monkeys into two glasses, leaving room at the top
2. Lovingly float one scoop of egg nog ice cream on top of each glass (I suggest local ice cream from Pascale's)
3. Spoon-drizzle 1 ounce of Rum Chata atop your boozy dessert
4. Drink back the sweet silky smoothness

You're probably going to want to monitor your blood sugar and insulin levels over the next week after consuming...

Happy 2016!

I don't foresee an oversaturation of the craft beer market anytime soon.

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Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with reporters in Ottawa on Wednesday.
PATRICK DOYLE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

No need to open Constitution: PM

POLITICS

Trudeau says he'd rather focus on jobs, health care

Justin Trudeau says there is no pressing problem facing the country that can only be resolved by opening the Constitution — a laborious, time-consuming road the new prime minister has no intention of going down.

That includes the fact that Quebec has never formally signed onto the Constitution, which was patriated in 1982 with a charter of rights by Trudeau's father, Pierre, over the objections of the province's then-

+ SENATE

Some politicians have argued that the Constitution should be opened to abolish or reform the Senate. But Trudeau has opted instead for reforms that can be implemented without changing the Constitution.

separatist government.

"What I ask now to anyone who offers to open the Constitution, or says we should open the Constitution, is: what concrete problem are we trying to solve that is unsolvable without opening the Constitution?" Trudeau said during a 75-minute sit-down with the Ottawa bureau of The

Canadian Press.

"I'd rather be talking about climate change and energy issues and job creation and training and health care and all these things that will make a concrete difference in people's lives."

Trudeau scoffed at a suggestion that Quebec's continued refusal to sign the Constitution is a major problem.

"Which articulates itself how?" he asked rhetorically.

Some Quebecers will always complain that Quebec is excluded from the Constitution, Trudeau acknowledged. But the Constitution does in fact apply to the province and nothing in it has limited Quebec's ability to deliver health care or education or take action on the issues that matter most to Quebecers, he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

JAILED BLOGGER

Trudeau not ready to intervene in case

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says he isn't planning to call Saudi Arabian authorities to ask that jailed blogger Raif Badawi be freed.

In a year-end interview with The Canadian Press, Trudeau said he won't pick up the phone right now on behalf of Badawi, who was sentenced to 1,000 lashes and 10 years in jail for his criticism of Saudi clerics.

"It's not in my immediate plans," he said Wednesday.

"Raif Badawi has a family who are here in Canada, which gives a certain connection," Trudeau

said. "It's a humanitarian case on which we continue to express ourselves in a clear fashion."

Foreign Affairs Minister Stephane Dion met in Ottawa on Thursday with his Saudi counterpart, Adel Al Jubeir, and discussed various topics, including Badawi.

Trudeau's remarks came despite the fact that when he was opposition leader some of his MPs, including Dion, called on then-prime minister Stephen Harper to personally ask the Saudi king to release Badawi.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Killer whale population experiencing baby boom

The endangered killer whale population off British Columbia's coast is experiencing a baby boom.

Scientists say an eighth calf has been born to the so-called J-pod of southern resident killer whales that's been growing over the past year.

The Washington State-based Center for Whale Research says a suspected new baby was spotted on Dec. 1 near San Juan Island, but only confirmed the new addition after another sighting on Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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'World is a living mosaic'

SOCIAL MEDIA

Campaign to highlight migrants' contributions

Migrants from around the world are sharing their life stories in a unique "I am a Migrant" campaign, launched by the International Organization of Migration to remind the world of the value of migrants.

Hundreds of people — including a Somali woman who moved to Canada to go to university, a French woman in Georgia and a Congolese artist in Mauritania — are participating in the global social media campaign, posting their profiles and photos on the website iamamigrant.org.

"We know from economic reports the incredible contributions migrants make. But it is easy to forget that," said Leonard Doyle, IOM spokesman. "We have to remind ourselves the world is a living mosaic and that makes

it much richer."

The campaign comes at a time when the news has been focused on scenes of desperate refugees, and the sometimes extreme political reactions those images have provoked.

Doyle hopes showing the value of migrants through positive stories will shift the political narrative and counter xenophobia and anti-immigrant rhetoric prevalent in parts of Europe.

The Mexican government, an enthusiastic participant, will put "Soy Migrante" posters on display next month.

Facebook in Germany has also lent support, donating online advertising space. Four videos have been posted in German on Facebook in the last two days, garnering five million views as of noon Thursday.

The campaign — launched in time for the UN's International Migrants Day — builds on a crowd-funded initiative "I am an Immigrant," introduced earlier this year in the U.K. by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Reflections on life in a new country ① **Lauriane, from France, now in Georgia** — "Everyone refers to people like me as 'expats.' In reality, I am a migrant." ② **Nadifo, from Somalia, now in Canada** — "I think Canada is a good country, where multiculturalism is practised, where so many people are there together in peace." ③ **Mihir, from India, now in the U.K.** — Mihir immigrated to the U.K. many years ago to follow his dream to become a journalist. "I feel Indian but I feel British, too. This is a duality." ④ **Rahi, from Iraq, now in Belgium** — "(My family has been) given so many opportunities here that Belgium has become our second home." ALL PHOTOS VIA IAMAMIGRANT.ORG

EUROPE

EU plans border force

European Union heavyweights France and Germany on Thursday backed a potentially divisive plan for a border guard agency with powers to unilaterally deploy to member states unable or unwilling to manage their borders.

The border and coast guard project is chiefly aimed at protecting Europe's external borders in countries like Greece and Italy as they struggle to manage the arrival of hundreds of thousands of people fleeing conflict or poverty for better lives in Europe.

But the idea the agency could send ships, planes or other assets to a country even if it opposes the deployment is reviving fears about a loss of national sovereignty to unelected officials at the EU's executive Commission in Brussels.

Countries further north in Europe like Germany and Sweden — the preferred destinations of many migrants — are keen to have tighter controls to ease the flow of people, as is France. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBERS

Global refugee population tops 20M

The global refugee population has surpassed the 20-million mark for the first time since 1992, says the United Nations refugee agency.

According to its 2015 mid-year update report, an average of 4,600 people are being

forced to flee their countries every day as Syria's war remains the single biggest cause worldwide of both new refugees and continuing mass internal and external displacement.

By the end of June, there were 20.2 million refugees —

up from 19.5 million a year ago — and 34 million internally displaced people — up by 2 million — around the world.

In the first six months of the year, the international community received 993,600 asylum claims, accounting for a

78 per cent increase over the same period in 2014, said the report to be released in Geneva on Friday.

As of June 30, Turkey was the world's biggest host country, with 1.84 million refugees on its territory. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

+ WHERE THEY'RE COMING FROM

Most common source countries for refugees

- **Syria:** 4.2 million. Fleeing civil war and the threat of extremist group Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).
- **Afghanistan:** 2.6 million. Fleeing Taliban extremists.

- **Somalia:** 1.1 million. (Fleeing insurgency led by Al-Shabab).
- **South Sudan:** 744,100. (Fleeing civil war)
- **Sudan:** 640,900. (Fleeing civil war).

SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS REFUGEE AGENCY 2015 MID-YEAR REPORT



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Let sleeping teens lie

EDUCATION

Eight too early to start class, experts say

More school districts around the U.S. are heeding the advice of scientists who have long said that expecting teens to show up to class before 8 a.m. isn't good for their health or their report cards.

The Seattle school board voted last month to adopt an 8:45 a.m. start time beginning next year for all of its high schools and most of its middle schools, joining 70 districts across the nation who adopted a later start time in recent years.

The movement still has a long way to go: There are more than 24,000 U.S. high schools. Supporters expect that such decisions will be made more quickly now that people have mostly stopped debating the underlying science.

Proponents of later start times got a boost last year when the American Academy of Pediatrics said that while starting later isn't a panacea for



Ben Early yawns before classes at Roosevelt High School in Seattle. The Seattle school board voted last month to adopt an 8:45 a.m. start time beginning next year for all of its high schools and most of its middle schools. ELAINE THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

teen health and academic problems, it can improve students' lives in many other ways.

"Essentially, across the board, any domain that you look at improves pretty dramatically," said Dr. Judy Owens of Boston Children's Hospital and author of the academy's policy statement on teen sleep. After the report, the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention also pushed for later bell times.

Research studies have shown later start times help combat sleep deprivation in teens, who naturally fall asleep later than their parents would like, and improve academic success, attendance, mental health and cut sleep-related car accidents.

Bridget Shelton, a freshman at Seattle's Roosevelt High School, believes the change in bell times will help her move from getting 6-7 hours of sleep to closer to 8 hours next year.

"I know many students that come in and are just struggling to stay awake," she said. "Many of my friends are falling asleep in class."

BALTIMORE

Hung jury means retrial in Freddie Gray case

Instead of a dramatic conclusion to the first of six trials of police officers in the death of Freddie Gray, the mistrial left Baltimore in suspense and confusion, with no immediate understanding of what happens next.

The city had braced for a possible repeat of the protests, destruction and dismay that engulfed the city in April after Gray's neck was broken in the back of a police van. But several small marches ended peacefully overnight as the community tried to process the news.

Baltimore Circuit Judge Barry Williams acknowledged the hung jury Wednesday after

the panel deadlocked over whether Officer William Porter had committed any crimes by failing to take measures that might have saved the life of the young black man, who was shackled and placed face down in the wagon after running from police.

Back at square one, prosecutors and defence attorneys met in Williams' chambers Thursday morning to discuss dates for a possible retrial. A uniformed deputy stood guard, and when the lawyers left about 30 minutes later, they declined to comment, citing the judge's gag order.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Putin describes Trump as 'bright and talented'

In Vladimir Putin's view, Donald Trump is "bright and talented" and "the absolute leader" in the presidential race. The Russian word he used not only means "bright" in terms of intelligence, but also "vivid" and even "gaudy."

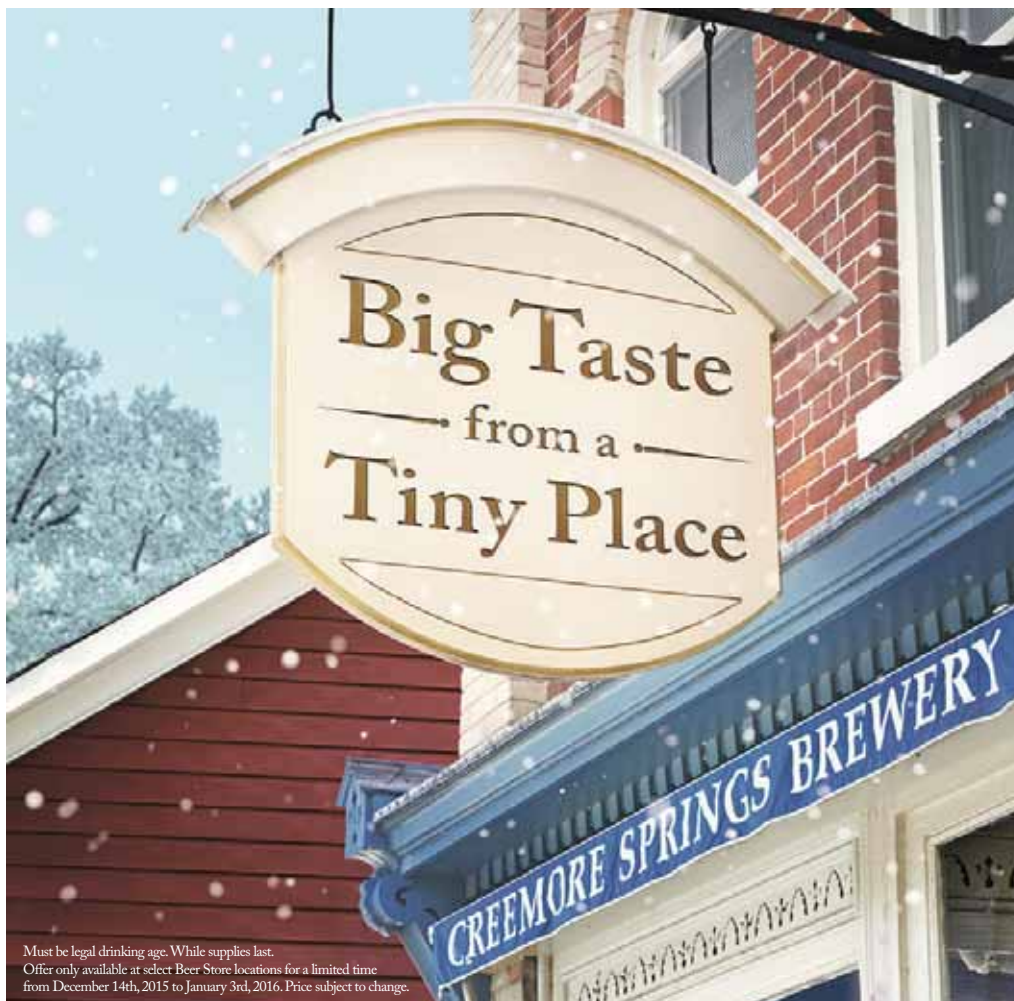
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Donald vs. Kimmel

In an appearance on Jimmy Kimmel's late-night show Wednesday, Donald Trump was questioned about campaign issues, saying he's gotten calls of thanks from friends who are Muslim.

"Those may have been crank calls," Kimmel replied.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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ON TRACK
2018

O-Train Confederation Line construction continues through the winter, with new Transitway road closures, routing adjustments and station changes effective **December 20** and **January 17**.

These adjustments have been designed to minimize the impacts to service, continue to serve your destinations and maintain key transfer points, while providing a cost-effective service. Some customers may have slightly longer travel times and see changes to stations, stops and connections. For more information about Confederation Line construction, visit ontrack2018.ca.

Service Changes Effective December 20

Transitway bridge closes between Hurdman and Lees Station and service adjusted

A section of the Transitway roadway will close between Lees and Hurdman Stations to make way for Confederation Line construction. Both stations will remain open, but your travel time or routing may be impacted. Bus routes that operate on this section of the Transitway will be rerouted, shortened, or will no longer serve Hurdman or Lees Stations. Two new Routes — 103 and 104 — will be introduced to maintain connections.

The following changes will be implemented on Sunday, December 20:

Route 4 will be shortened to operate between downtown and Carleton University and replaced east of campus by new Route 104 described below, which will also replace Route 129 on campus and operate direct to Orléans. The university will be well-served by Routes 4, 7, 104, 111 and the O-Train Trillium Line.

Route 6 will be adjusted slightly to travel from Hurdman via the 417 and Lees Avenue to the upper level of Lees Station.

Route 8 will no longer serve Lees Station and will be rerouted between Hurdman and Campus Stations via Highway 417.

East end rush hour routes 20, 21, 22, 24, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37, 38, 221, 231, and 232 (excluding Route 27) will be shortened to end at Bay Station on Albert near Bronson in the morning. Trips will bypass Lees and will no longer be extended to Tunney's Pasture or Lincoln Fields.

In the afternoon, all trips will start where they do today. East-bound Orléans Routes **20, 21, 22, 27, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37, 38 and 221** will bypass Blair Station for a faster trip home. This will improve travel time by several minutes.

Blair Station will continue to be served by Routes 12, 24, 91, 94, 95, new 103, new 104, 121, 123, 124, 126, 128, 129, 130, 193, 194, 199, 202, 231 and 619.

OC Transpo

New Winter Service

Commuters to Gatineau in the morning, who normally transfer at LeBreton, can make a convenient transfer on Albert Street at Kent Station to Route 8, 27 or 40. Alternatively, customers may take another westbound route to LeBreton Station, then transfer to Route 8 or 105.

Route 27 will be shortened in the morning to end in Gatineau at Terrasses de la Chaudière, instead of LeBreton Station, and will bypass Blair Station in the afternoon.

Route 40 will be shortened in the morning to end in Gatineau at Terrasses de la Chaudière, instead of LeBreton.

Routes 41 and 43 will be shortened to end at Hurdman Station where transfers can be made to downtown on Routes 8, 40, 86, 87, 92, 96, 97, 98 and 99.

West end rush hour Routes 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 77, 176, 261, 262, 263 and 283 will be shortened to end at Mackenzie King Station in the morning. In the afternoon, trips will continue to start at Campus Station.

Route 85 will be shortened to end at Lees Station and will no longer serve Hurdman and Campus Stations. Buses will be rerouted to travel from downtown via Laurier, King Edward, Mann, Chapel and Lees Avenue to Lees Station, maintaining a connection between uOttawa main campus and the Lees campus.

For connections to Hurdman, or eastbound or southbound service, transfer downtown.

Route 95 will bypass Hurdman Station and serve Lees Station eastbound only. Service to Hurdman Station will be provided by new Route 104, which will operate seven days a week and provide a new direct connection between Orléans and Carleton University.

Route 98 will be shortened to end at LeBreton Station in off-peak periods Monday to Friday. During peak periods and on weekends in most time periods, route 98 will continue to serve Tunney's Pasture. Buses will serve Lees Station southbound.

Route 101 will be shortened to operate between Bayshore and St-Laurent Stations. Peak period service between Orléans and Bayshore will be provided by new Route 103 described below.

Buses will be rerouted slightly to serve the upper level of Lees Station only and travel on Highway 417 between Lees and Hurdman.

Route 103 will operate in peak periods, between Place d'Orléans and Bayshore, replacing Route 101 between St-Laurent and Orléans. Buses will bypass Hurdman Station in both directions, and St-Laurent Station eastbound, to reduce delays for customers. Lees Station will be served in both directions. For service to Hurdman from the east, see new Route 104.

Route 104 will provide a new direct service between Place d'Orléans and Carleton University via Hurdman Station, offering a convenient connection between the east and south ends of the city, and reducing transfers for some customers. Route 104 will serve Blair and St-Laurent Stations in both directions, and will operate along the Transitway between Hurdman and Billings Bridge Stations.

Buses will operate frequently, seven days a week, while service between Hurdman and Blair Stations will operate 24 hours a day, Monday through Saturday.

New Route 104 will replace the current trips on Routes 4 and 129 between Hurdman and Carleton University.

Route 106 trips that currently end at Elmville will be extended via St-Laurent Blvd. to St-Laurent Station for improved connections to Smyth Road and the Ottawa Hospital General Campus. This extension will reduce transfers for some customers and improve travel time. Overnight trips travelling to and from LeBreton will not serve Lees Station.

Routes 114 and 192 will be shortened to end at St-Laurent Station, instead of Hurdman. Connections to Hurdman from St-Laurent will be maintained by Routes 92, 96, 101, 104, 129 and 199.

Route 129 will no longer serve Carleton University, but will end at Hurdman Station. Connections to the university campus from the east end will be provided by new Route 104 described above.

All weekday trips northbound in the morning rush hour and southbound in the afternoon rush hour will be adjusted to follow the more direct routing along Bathgate, instead of via Matheson, Charlton and Plumber.

Route 401 will be rerouted slightly to serve the upper level of Lees Station, and will bypass Hurdman Station.

Route 403 will bypass Lees Station and travel via Highway 417 between Hurdman and Campus Stations.

Route 602 will be shortened in the morning to start at Mackenzie King Station, instead of Hurdman, then travel via Waller to the regular route. Afternoon trips will end at Mackenzie King Station.

Future Confederation Line Construction

January 17, 2016: a section of the Transitway roadway will close between Merton and Empress for Confederation Line construction. Bus service will be rerouted to travel along bus-only lanes on Albert and Scott Streets, between downtown and just east of Tunney's Pasture.

Bayview and LeBreton Transitway Stations will shift to Albert Street, while LeBreton Station service to Gatineau will move one block south on Preston.

New Winter Schedules Start January 3

On Sunday, January 3, new winter schedules go into effect on most routes to reflect the winter seasonal changes. You should obtain a new timetable for all **peak period** and **express** routes as well as the following routes: **1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 16, 85 through 118, 128, 129, 144, 146, 151, 153, 156, 161, 172, 176, 177, 178 and the O-Train Trillium Line.**

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Dec. 20 Changes

Facebook trying a little Photo Magic on its users

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Feature aims to foster more allegiance to Messenger app

Facebook is trying to make it easier to send photos as the holiday season's picture-taking frenzy escalates.

The world's largest social-networking service is offering a feature called Photo Magic that will automatically address a message so it can be sent quickly to Facebook friends identified in a picture.

The option relies on the same image-recognition technology that attaches people's names to Facebook posts.

Facebook Inc. will highlight Photo Magic in a Messenger update that started rolling out Thursday to users of Apple's iPhones and smartphones running on Google's Android software.

The update is being distrib-



Facebook is rolling out a feature called Photo Magic that will automatically address a message so it can be sent quickly to friends identified in a picture. ISTOCK

uted to a broad audience after a month of testing among smartphone users in Australia. Facebook is planning to make Photo Magic available to Messenger users everywhere in the world, except in Canada and the European Union.

Messenger has more than 700 million users, about half

the size of the audience on Facebook's social network.

Facebook is counting on Photo Magic to foster more allegiance to its Messenger app as it competes against other competing services such as Snapchat that have become particularly popular among teenagers and young adults.

As part of the Messenger upgrade, Facebook is also including an option that will allow users to change the colours of their exchanges with different friends and switch the formal name of a recipient to a nickname, such as "mom" or "dad."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CRIME

Turing CEO arrested

Martin Shkreli, the former hedge-fund manager vilified for buying Turing Pharmaceuticals and jacking up the price of a life-saving drug more than 50-fold, was arrested Thursday on securities fraud charges unrelated to the furor.

The charges against the 32-year-old entrepreneur — an unapologetically aggressive businessman and relentlessly self-promoting figure — involve his actions at another pharmaceutical company, Retrophin, which he ran as CEO from 2012 to 2014.

The indictment said Shkreli and others orchestrated three interrelated fraud schemes from 2009 to 2014. It said they



Martin Shkreli is escorted by law enforcement agents in New York Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

fraudulently induced investors to sink their money into two separate funds and misappropriated Retrophin's assets to satisfy Shkreli's personal and professional debts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Shaw explains takeover

Shaw Communications says its proposed \$1.6-billion takeover of Wind Mobile will provide an affordable entry into the industry and an expansion beyond Western Canada where the cable and internet company has its customer base.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD metroview

You don't have a right to a free online comments section

Commenters on The Globe and Mail's website are (predictably) dismayed.

The Toronto Star announced the end to its online comment sections on Wednesday, and when the Globe reported the same move, its own readers — more than 400 of them — mourned the loss.

One wrote a six-point defence of comment sections as avenues for free expression. Some argued the "ultra-left downtown elites" couldn't handle the heat. Many called it short-sighted and said they've no interest in commenting on social media. They like their anonymity and even promised to drop their subscriptions if the Globe followed suit.

But the Star is not out on a limb. Dozens of media outlets around the world, including Postmedia in September, have made the same call. Why? Because comments are rife with abuse and threats, racism, sexism and bigotry (for which the publishers are legally responsible). No one, not even the Globe commenters, denies it. Cleaning up that mess takes resources, and media companies are rather tight on resources these days.

Some outlets, the New York Times being the most prominent, argue comments sections should be thought of not as an added bonus for readers but as the meat of engagement. Lose engagement and you lose readers. Lose readers and

you lose money.

It's perhaps easier for the Grey Lady to downplay moderating costs; it has the advantage of being part of a new digital project to analyze and develop tools for reader comments.

But supposing comments sections really are integral to the exercise of online journalism, readers should be willing to pay. Maybe that means an extra fee in order to comment. Maybe it means watching an ad or just paying more overall for the news.

Readers should know digital and print subscriptions do not cover the cost of journalism, let alone endangered investigative journalism, let alone comment monitors. Ad dollars are only going in one direction, and while companies flail about for the best way to build readership and new revenue, some functions will get cut.

Free speech is important but it's not a newspaper's job to give it to you. Media companies aren't public property. And your anonymity as a commenter is not a right.

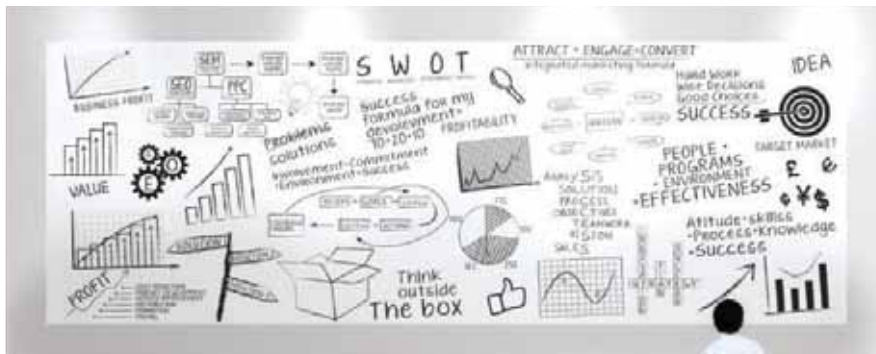
So, yes, it would be great to have lively, spirited, hate-free debate in comments. Reporters would love to find story ideas there, along with new angles and meaningful critiques, and media executives wouldn't scoff at 400-plus comments on a single piece.

But if you want it, it should cost you.

THE BIG THING: GUFF

Baloney. Crapola. Baffling B.S. Or, as the Brits say, guff. Whatever you call it, overinflated, nonsensical language is an epidemic in the business world (and everywhere). Lucy Kellaway, the founder of Guffpedia, a new site that names and shames the ghastliest guffers, says the proliferation of goofy jargon is a "tragedy with no remedy." What do you think? Is guff a verbal scourge, or does it have its uses — other than being a convenient way to fill empty air?

SOURCE: THE FINANCIAL TIMES



1 Awful or awesome? Some of Guffpedia's stars include Speedo, for rebranding its swimming cap as a "hair management system," advertising firm Circus Street, which boasts that its brands become "multi-dimensional communication scaffolds," and an unnamed food-industry analyst who calls bottled water an "affordable, portable lifestyle beverage."

2 When guff works So why do people continue to appreciate (and repeat) utter nonsense? "It makes you sound clever; it shows you belong to a club; it is an alternative to thinking, and ... you can say things that sound decent but are actually meaningless," Kellaway says.



3 Dazzled by drivelt

In a study published last month, psychologists at the University of Waterloo presented subjects randomly with computer-generated sentences like "Wholeness quiets infinite phenomena," real tweets from spirituality guru Deepak Chopra (example: "Attention and intention are the mechanics of manifestation") and common sayings ("A river cuts through a rock, not because of its power but its persistence"). Many people found all three types of statements profound. Believers in the paranormal were more likely to say the fake and New-Age phrases were really deep.

Home at the haunted house for the holidays



The holidays are coming up, and, if you're like a lot of people, you'll be heading home for a few days to spend time with the fam. And by home, I mean not your home, but the house where your parents live.

Going home and hanging out with your family can be hard for a lot of people. Triple-brewed tensions that have been soaking in a familial collective unconscious

As your parents age, a procession of hellspawn rush in to fill the dark spaces in the home.

for decades, divisive voting allegiances, racism, shame at confronting your own shortcomings you only really feel in contrast to high-achieving siblings — the list goes on.

But going home is especially hard when your parents' house is haunted.

Like mine. That's right, my parents got themselves a big old haunted house.

Haunted by what, you ask? Ghosts, of course. Ghosts of vicious arguments, traumatic memories and just your standard-issue childhood. How do you know if you're visiting a haunted house, you ask?

Let me tell you a story. I went home for Christmas last year, and I was hanging my coat up in the closet when a hand came out and took my coat from my hands, hung it neatly on the rack, and hissed, quite politely, "You will never live up to your father's expectations."

The strange thing is, when I was a kid, I didn't even notice that my parents' house was haunted. Although maybe the house had fewer ghosts then. You know, there are things you don't notice about your family when you're a kid because your home is like water to a fish: it's all you know. It's only when you start to see what other families are like that you twig that not all houses' hallways emit deep, echoey whispers of "GET OUUUUT."

Or maybe that just wasn't there when I was a kid. It does make a certain kind of sense that as your parents age, and you age, and once-vital arguments congeal into silence, a procession of hellspawn would rush in to fill the dark spaces of the home where your little soul was nurtured, undeterred by kind words, or lovers, or therapy — nay, growing stronger and feeding on the food only of itself, like a hu-

man centipede that ... grows.

Anyway, how to get rid of these ghosts? There is only one way. That's right: exorcism.

There's a little-known law of the German psychotherapist Carl Jung that says that every time you marshal your bravery and broach a Terrifying Topic with your parents, or other family member, in the Haunted Location, the ghost who haunts that location withers and dies. So: do that.

"But I don't have ghosts in my home!" you say. Don't you? Listen carefully to the silence in the kitchen when everyone else has gone to sleep, and the dinner's dishes, now dry, rest in the dish rack, and two stained glasses of wine stand on the dining room table.

Listen to the hush. Happy holidays!

Stephen Thomas lives and writes in Toronto. Follow him on Twitter @skwthomas.

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ANTHONY DANIELS

Playing C-3PO comes with its share of strange moments

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Having one of the most recognizable voices in movie history can lead to some surreal moments. Just ask Anthony Daniels. He's played C-3PO in all seven Star Wars films, including this weekend's *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* and once rented a car with a very familiar voice on the GPS.

"I felt uncomfortable with me — very clearly — giving me instruction for something I didn't know. I found it quite bizarre. I was driving thinking, 'This is unnatural.'"

Other times the voice, which in real life is less mannered than his on-screen counterpart, brings him unexpected recognition.

For some of his fans, seeing isn't believing — hearing is.

"One of the most charming things that happens to me is when an adult will bring a child to me and say, 'He doesn't believe you're C-3PO.'"

"And why would he? I'm some old guy with white hair. Then I do the

voice. You see the sound go in one ear and then there is an absolutely realistic time delay whilst the synapses process this. Nothing happens for a second-and-a-half, then suddenly there's a smile and excitement. I love that delay while they process it. You couldn't buy that. I've been given that and it gives me utter joy because it is without guile. It is just an honest recognition of something I did."

A week before Daniels trekked to Tunisia in 1976 to begin shooting the sci-fi space opera, he was a stage actor performing in Tom Stoppard's absurdist play *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.

"It's about two nobodies," he says. "Rosencrantz is a bit gung ho, (he) doesn't think. Doesn't work things out really; just goes for the main thing. His friend Guildenstern is much more reserved, much more intellectual. He thinks about things. Worries about things."

"There I am a week later playing C-3PO in the desert with R2D2. I would say it was three or four years later that something in my brain went, 'Wait a minute, R2 and 3PO are *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*.' There is a nice synergy there, or connection I think. 3PO is the clever one and R2 is the gung ho one. They're odd couple buddies. It is a great dynamic to act off."

Today C-3PO and R2D2 are seen as a classic combo, but during filming, Daniels had his doubts it would work.

"The problem for me was R2D2 never made any sounds so I was playing off myself. Not to aggrandize myself, but it was quite a challenge. It



The problem for me was R2D2 never made any sounds so I was playing off myself.

Anthony Daniels

was a bit like a terrible *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* where you pretend a chair is your best friend.

"When I saw the final movie and there were R2's beeps and responses, to me it was total magic because that was the first time I ever saw it. They had woven a conversation after the fact."

Playing the golden droid has been a lifelong career for Daniels. The 69-year-old actor was just 30 years old when he first donned C-3PO's suit and has since appeared in person or voice in dozens of movies, television shows, commercials, PSAs and live events as the character. He's even in the legendary *The Star Wars Holiday Special* and says he's been "very lucky to be given the chance" to play C-3PO but calls that his "business life."

"I don't go around saying, 'Do you know who I am?'"

When I suggest he could at least use his fame and the C-3PO voice to get great tables in restaurants he says, "No, no, no. Then they'd say there's no table tonight or tomorrow. I don't think people would be too terribly impressed to have me in the restaurant. Were I to enter in a gold suit then I could have the entire room to myself!"

Despite playing one of the most recognizable characters of all time, Anthony Daniels, inset, almost never gets recognized. HANDOUT



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Maya Rudolph is anti-social(media)



This photo shows John Leguizamo as Dave and Maya Rudolph as Brinda, in a scene from the film, *Sisters*, directed by Jason Moore. K.C. BAILEY/UNIVERSAL PICTURES VIA AP

Q & A

The SNL vet on *Sisters* and steering clear of social media

Ned Ehrbar

Metro | Hollywood



When SNL vet Maya Rudolph isn't busy being hilarious — like in the new comedy *Sisters* alongside Tina Fey and Amy Poehler — she's busy raising her four young children with her husband, filmmaker Paul Thomas Anderson. So it's understandable why she doesn't have much time for social media. But even if she did, she'd avoid it all the same.

Your character, Brinda, has a major chip on her shoulder from high school. How was it playing that kind of long-held resentment?

It is fun. I think the insecurity of Brinda's character really is our own collective insecurity. Everybody wants to be invited to the party. That's sort of the worst possible feeling in terms of high school days. You don't want to be the person that's left off the list. I feel like with Brinda it's almost as if she was just waiting for Kate (played by Fey) to come back to her hometown so she could be like, "See? I've really got my life together."

It's interesting how that FOMO (fear of missing out) turned her into a mean girl.

She has major FOMO. I just learned about FOMO. But everyone's got FOMO. Well, not everyone. Some people don't. Some people are actually content.

Twitter and Facebook have made it more pronounced.

Yes. I don't dabble in those things. Maybe I was just born so early in the '70s that it's just so hard for me to relate to the idea of sharing everything. When I do see other people's Instagrams or Twitter, it's such a carefully edited version of themselves, so everything looks f—ing great. Everything is perfect. Your life is perfect. But also I don't want anybody to know my business.

And it's a lot of work.

I feel like if I was constantly doing that and not doing the other things I need to do, I would hate myself a little bit. I don't have enough time to do the things I'm supposed to be doing, so it would just feel like pure procrastination.

Has anyone ever pressured you to do it for work?

Yes. When I did my variety show, I was given a Twitter account... And so I announced it, like, "Hey! My show's coming on. You should watch it." And the response was so crazy. I obviously had not set up my settings correctly, but people

started responding and my phone would not stop. It felt weird.

That sounds terrifying.

It was. And I'm not used to it. I'm not good at it. I'm good at other things.

Such as?

Roller skating. But not ice skating. And I do not know how to rollerblade either.

How does this compare to crazy parties you've been to?

This is the craziest party. I mean, I did go to a lot of parties in high school. I grew up in L.A., and the thing to do was just go to random parties. You'd just go to somebody's house. It was so stupid, everything about it was dumb. The concept of it is just so screwed up. "Hey, there's a bunch of children in a home and the adults are gone and everyone's wasted!" That's a very, very dangerous, bad idea.

Do you think that new perspective has to do with being a grown-up and a parent?

That's the worst payback ever, actually having to think about that stuff. I don't have tattoos, but there was a time when I wanted one. And then my daughter, her cousin drew these dots on her face and I was like, "If you're going to get a tattoo you need to talk to me first. We need to have a conversation." What's happening to me? (laughs)

May the fashion be with you

COSTUME

Legacy lives on with wardrobe in latest movie instalment

From Obi-Wan Kenobi's Jedi robes to Darth Vader's mask and Princess Leia's golden bikini, costumes featured in Star Wars are arguably as famous as the franchise's characters themselves.

As *The Force Awakens* arrives in theatres on Friday, costume curators and creators can't wait to see how fashion plays a role in the latest instalment.

"From the prequels, you look at some of Natalie Portman's gowns, they're so lavish, they're so fashionable. And what that says to me is that society is doing well," said Saul Drake, project director of the Smithsonian travelling exhibition *Rebel, Jedi, Princess, Queen: Star Wars and the Power of Costume*.

"What's really interesting to see for *The Force Awakens* costumes is that it's kind of almost a return to form for the classic style of costume. They're very sparse, they're very monotone, there's not a lot of embellishment on there. And without even seeing the movie, what that tells me is that the society is not doing that well. There's struggle going on."

"It's interesting to see how those costumes not only create character, but they also reflect what's going on in the Star Wars movies in that time period."

A selection of designs from *The Force Awakens* are among the 70 costumes currently on display in the Smithsonian's exhibition at the Discovery Times Square centre in New York until Sept. 5, 2016.

Styles sported by newcomers Finn (John Boyega) and Rey (Daisy Ridley) are also featured alongside notable ensembles from the six previous films spanning from the 1977 debut to 2002's *Attack of the Clones*.

Toronto-based costume and set designer Sarah Armstrong said she's noted some parallels between the designs she's seen so far on Finn and Rey and those worn by their on-screen predecessors Han Solo and Leia (Harrison Ford and Carrie Fisher).

They harken back to fashions from the original movies, which encompassed Asian-inspired designs with simple shapes alongside military-influenced styles, Armstrong said.



“

There's not a lot of embellishment... Without even seeing the movie, what that tells me is that the society is not doing that well.

Saul Drake, Smithsonian

"I think it's incredible how the original designer (John Mollo) was able to blend and marry the Samurai with a modern warrior and build archetypes that have remained timeless," said Armstrong. "You can't ignore that. And there are very few films out there that have been able to do that."

"I think that's also one of the reasons it's been so successful because it's a unique thing on its own, and that's why it still retains its impact."

Among the most enduring costumes from the film franchise is its most revealing.

The gilded bikini worn on-screen by Fisher in 1983's *Return of the Jedi* has remained perennially popular — and parodied — ever since.

Comedian Amy Schumer struck a suggestive pose with C-3PO while dressed as Leia

on the August cover of *GQ*. Montreal label UNTOLD was awarded a \$15,000 prize in a Star Wars costume contest held during Toronto's World MasterCard Fashion Week in October with their interpretation of Leia's look.

Recent published reports suggested that Disney plans to retire the two-piece from use in product sales and marketing. Company representatives did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

"The fact that it's a very male-centred world makes anything that Leia wore stand out," Armstrong said. "Leia's costumes are very (much) drawn on some of the male shapes but are very feminine."

Armstrong said the fashion formula established early in the Star Wars series was "incredibly successful" and it would be wise for those now steering the franchise not to veer too far off-course.

"They'll want to have something to appeal to the old fans, the people like me that saw it in '77, and they're going to want to appeal to a whole new generation of people. ... Once they've had success with this first one, you might see them try to take some more liberties."

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DRAMA/COMEDY Sisters

Director: Jason Moore
Starring: Tina Fey, Amy Poehler

Two disconnected sisters are summoned home to clean out their childhood bedroom before their parents sell the family house. Looking to recapture their glory days, they throw one final high-school-style party for their classmates.

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Critics: **89%** **Audience:** **96%**



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Director: Brian Helgeland
Starring: Tom Hardy, Emily Browning

The true story of the rise and fall of London's most notorious gangsters, Reggie and Ronnie Kray, who captivated the public and once upon a time lorded over a criminal empire. An integral part of London's East End, and the iconic Swinging Sixties.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **60%** **Audience:** **73%**



ANIMATION/KIDS Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip

Director: Walt Becker
Starring: Justin Long, Matthew Gray Gubler

Through a series of misunderstandings, Alvin, Simon and Theodore come to believe that Dave is going to propose to his new girlfriend in New York City... and dump them.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **8%** **Audience:** **82%**



ANIMATION The Good Dinosaur

Director: Peter Sohn
Starring: Raymond Ochoa, Jeffrey Wright

What if the cataclysmic asteroid that forever changed life on Earth actually missed the planet completely and giant dinosaurs never became extinct?

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **81%** **Audience:** **81%**



ACTION & ADVENTURE Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Director: J.J. Abrams
Starring: Harrison Ford, Daisy Ridley

In this continuation of the Star Wars saga, balance returns to the Force as the First Order, emerging from the ashes of the Empire, clashes with the Resistance, which includes newcomers and heroes from the former Rebel Alliance.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **94%** **Audience:** **99%**



DRAMA In The Heart of the Sea

Director: Ron Howard
Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Benjamin Walker

In the winter of 1820, the New England whaling ship Essex was assaulted by something no one could believe: a whale of mammoth size and will. The real-life disaster would inspire Herman Melville's Moby-Dick.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: **60%** **Audience:** **70%**

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3 CHRISTMAS MUST-SEE CLASSICS FOR THE WEEKEND

Brian Gasperek
For Metro Canada



If you haven't had a chance to kick back with a glass of spiked eggnog and stream Bill Murray's new holiday Netflix special, *A Very Murray Christmas*, you're totally missing out.

The show is not only as cap-

tivatingly bonkers as you would expect from a Bill Murray and friends holiday extravaganza, it also pays a great homage to all of the classic Christmas variety specials from television's past. Especially the really weird ones.

Dating back to the late '50s, celebrity-hosted Christmas specials were a huge draw on TV every winter. They featured singing, dancing, lovable guest

stars, and some questionably thin holiday-themed plotlines. The popularity of these specials lasted several decades, and a handful of them still remain notorious today.

Whether it's because of their festive nostalgia, their utter ridiculousness or their disastrous legacy, here are 5 classic Christmas TV specials that you really need to go back and watch.



1 The Judy Garland Christmas Show

In the early '60s, *The Judy Garland Christmas Show* aired as a sweet, wholesome variety special that was fit for the entire family. But if you watch it now, it will completely floor you. The special, which took place just a few years before Garland died from a barbiturate overdose, was entirely sponsored by a pharmaceutical company! It features a visibly troubled-looking Garland, hosting a Christmas celebration with her children and guests at their faux home. It includes a plethora of uncomfortable moments, like the suggestive duet performed by Garland's young daughter Liza Minnelli and her boyfriend Tracy Everitt, Everitt's bizarre crotch-accentuating sweater and a couple different Santa visits that feel more like home invasions. The special is available on YouTube. It's crazy.

Pee-wee's Playhouse Christmas Special 2

Pee-wee Herman's Christmas special from 1988 is an absolute must watch. The show combines the nostalgic singing and dancing from classic '60s holiday specials with the weekly weirdness that was Pee-wee's Playhouse. Along with Herman himself, the special features all of Pee-wee's bizarre Playhouse friends like Chairy, Cowboy Curtis and Charo. The strange cast interacts and performs with a solid line-up of '80s special guests that include Cher, Magic Johnson, Glen Close, Whoopi Goldberg and Oprah. The special is available on Netflix and should appeal to children, adults and stoners alike.



3 The Star Wars Holiday Special

All of the hype surrounding *The Force Awakens* this month reminded us of the most ridiculous, must-see Christmas special of all time, *The Star Wars Holiday Special* from 1978. Yes, this actually exists and it's beyond weird. Although this special is more plot-driven than the others we mentioned, it's still intended to be a wholesome family variety show, and features singing, comedy and celebrity guests. The special revolves around a disgruntled-looking Star Wars cast attempting to get Chewbacca home to his family in time to celebrate 'Life Day.' Bea Arthur, Art Carney, Jefferson Starship and other guest stars all make very confusing appearances in what was a blatant Star Wars cash-grab. It's so much of a mess that even George Lucas says he hates it! Look it up on YouTube.



(cue angels singing)

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CURMUDGEONLY CHRISTMAS QUIZ



Not everyone loves the holidays — in fact, some people dread them. Take this quiz to see if you're a Christmas curmudgeon:

1. It's Nov. 1, the day after Halloween, and you walk into a store and hear Christmas music blaring. What do you do?

- a. Buy the store, shut it down
- b. Swear at the top of your lungs
- c. Go on a rampage

2. A loved one asks for a gift that's outrageously expensive. What's your game plan?

- a. Flat out no
- b. Steal it
- c. Buy it, then tear it to shreds

3. You've been tasked with bringing a side dish for Christmas dinner. What do you bring?

- a. Something you picked up at a convenience store on the way to the party — which you're late to
- b. Booze
- c. Water



4. You pass by a Santa look-alike on the street, collecting money for a local charity. What's your reaction?

- a. "Leave. Me. Alone!"
- b. "Make me a sandwich."
- c. "Water... gun."

5. It's Christmas morning. What's your first thought when you open your eyes?

- a. Bah humbug
- b. @#&\$!
- c. Bright light! Bright light!

Mostly a: You're Scrooged — You're selfish and cynical, but you may learn some lessons this Christmas that will turn your frown upside down.

Mostly b: You're a Bad Santa — You've been misbehaving (a lot), but this might be the Christmas you go good.

Mostly c: You're a Gremlin — You'd better not eat any Christmas cookies after midnight.

Whether you're a curmudgeon or not, there's a Christmas movie for you. Starting Dec. 8 and running until Jan. 12, Hollywood Suite is offering a free preview of uncut and commercial-free movies that shaped the '70s, '80s, '90s and 2000s. Available on television service providers across the country, this free preview includes access to Hollywood Suite On Demand, where available. Rediscover such Christmas classics as Gremlins (1984), Scrooged (1988), Bad Santa (2003) and more.

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DOCUMENTARY

Film looks inside the best restaurant in the world

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



Noma: My Perfect Storm may capture 33-months in the kitchen of Rene Redzepi's four-time winning Best Restaurant in the World, but Pierre Deschamps actually never set out to make a movie about food.

"The first goal was to focus on Redzepi," admitted the filmmaker ahead of the documentary's release in select theatres and on VOD.

"The backdrop is Noma. I didn't want to go too much into the making of the food itself because we have TV shows and they do that all the time.

"I was really trying to tell the story of a person in a specific context and what that person achieved."

Redzepi's accomplishments are certainly worth attention.

The young Danish chef has not only run world-renowned Noma, a restaurant in Copenhagen, he also invented New Nordic Cuisine — an artistic, locally-based gastronomy that relies heavily on seasonal ingredients and foraging.

Perhaps more importantly, Deschamps explores how an ostracized Muslim youth battled racism and still seemingly suffers the insecurity of being an outsider — even as he runs the Best Restaurant in the World.

"I knew he has issues with racism (and) I knew with



Noma: My Perfect Storm, about the famous Copenhagen restaurant, is out on VOD today.



It's a guy who climbed the ladder of success within a few years to become the God of Food

Pierre Deschamps on Rene Redzepi

Noma, he was trying to do something different.

"The sum of those factors made him who he became," said Deschamps.

"When you look at Redzepi's story, it's a guy who climbed the ladder of success within a few years to become the God of Food — people will be surprised looking at the ups and downs."

Moviegoers will also see behind the curtain of one of the most celebrated kitchens on the planet.

There may be scenes of Redzepi rejoicing his apprentices' gastronomic experimentations, but they're equally balanced by brazen sequences of the famous

chef acting emotional and unhinged.

"He knows me a bit — who I am and my philosophy about life.

"And he knows I wasn't going to dig into private stuff," admitted Deschamps about capturing such intimate moments on-screen.

But the filmmaker is also quick to credit Danish culture's broad respect for "tall poppy syndrome" for Redzepi's modesty as well.

"You need to make sure you respect everyone and you shouldn't think of yourself too much," explained Deschamps.

"I think Rene has kept that sort of humility," he adds.

MORE EATS

Top three restaurants in Canada:

Toque! — Montreal

This fun Montreal restaurant has focused on local ingredients for an inventive menu made of gastronomic delights like pan-seared foie gras and venison loin.

Hawksworth Restaurant — Vancouver

With its elegant interior, the décor of Hawksworth is as swanky as its French and West Coast-influenced cuisine, which ranges from entrees like parmesan-crusted chicken to grilled sturgeon with squid ink risotto.

Buca — Toronto

An Italian spin on fine-dining, executive chef Rob Gentile serves up such fare as hand-rolled ricotta gnocchi or crispy pigs' ears with fennel.



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A cultural getaway to Montreal



The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts is putting the spotlight on the Beaver Hall Group, a female artist ensemble based in the city in the 1920s. KATHY BUCKWORTH/FOR METRO

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Kathy Buckworth
For Metro Canada



Montreal has an international reputation for fabulous cuisine, fantastic shopping and fine arts. You only need spend 48 hours to get a taste of this trendy and growing city, which has rightfully earned a UNESCO City of Design designation.

Day 1

In the heart of the city you'll find the Golden Square Mile, running from Avenue Atwater to rue Saint-Denis, world-famous for its concentration of art boutiques. Start your day with the city's best-known "power breakfast" hot spot, Le Renoir at the Sofitel Hotel. Walk a few scenic blocks down the street to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. The wonderfully curated Colours of Jazz exhibition runs until Jan. 31, featuring the unique brushstrokes of the predominantly female artist ensemble the Beaver Hall Group, who painted in a Modernist style in the 1920s.

Lunch at the café at the museum is both French and modern fusion inspired; blood pudding, Moroccan octopus and seasonal fare are just some of



Le Renoir restaurant at the Sofitel Hotel. SOFTEL PR

the elegantly plated feature dishes. Save room for the exotic assortment of desserts.

Put your power shoes on to head out for an afternoon of shopping at some of the country's most exclusive shops, including Tiffany's, Gucci, Escada, and Montreal's own favourite department store, Simons.

Unload your shopping and head into Le Bar, a hopping bistro that attracts both young millennials and senior executives, featuring a line of apple-based Neige cider drinks and an eclectic bar menu, showcasing their famous charcuterie board and tasty local Quebec cheeses.

Day 2

Stop for a croissant at one of the many aromatic bistros and bakeries on rue Sainte-Catherine, before heading for your next museum hit at the McCord Museum, which specializes in the preservation of Canadian history, as well as offering fun

and educational children's programming. Want to feel like a lady who lunches? Be one by dropping into the Holt Renfrew lunchroom, and linger over a drink before planning your next shopping move.

Relax in your room at the Sofitel and order an in-room spa treatment, or if you're looking for a true rural Quebec experience in the midst of your urban visit, head to La Face Cachée de la Pomme, an hour outside of Montreal, and the birthplace of ice cider. Extreme cold temperatures allow for the creation of this unique drink experience, and exemplifies what they call "Quebec culture in a bottle." Tours are available and their foie gras, made with ice cider, is a particular treat, perfect for the end of an artisanal- and action-packed two days.

Kathy Buckworth was a guest of the Sofitel Hotel, Montreal.

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For Metro Canada



Snow and ice means one thing in Muskoka — great Canadian fun.

Muskoka's venerable Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville, Ont., is well known for its many summer activities, including two championship 18-hole golf courses. Deerhurst also played host to the world's leaders for the G8 Summit in 2010.

What you may not know, is that the famed 118-year-old tourist getaway operates year-round, and during the holiday season, the sprawling 100-acre property is transformed into a magical winter wonderland.

Skyline International CEO Michael Sneyd told Metro in October that there's lots to do



A sleigh ride is just one of the many activities you can do at Deerhurst. COURTESY DEERHURST RESORT

at Deerhurst during the fall and winter seasons. "We've been full the last three or four weeks with people enjoying the fall colours, coming up and getting close to nature."

Deerhurst has a unique position within Huntsville, and is only a few minutes from Algonquin Park, situated right on

Peninsula Lake and adjacent to the Lake of Bays. If you're travelling with kids, then nothing compares to the newly renovated Muskoka resort condominiums, featuring a full kitchen, cosy gas fireplace and views of the golf course.

The main dining room at the Eclipse restaurant sits under a

vaulted ceiling in the Pavilion, with a panoramic view overlooking Peninsula Lake. Deerhurst's chefs serve up the most appetizing breakfast buffets, lunches and dinners, specializing in local fare. You may find on the menu such northern Ontario delicacies as Manitoulin Island freshwater rainbow

trout or Muskoka craft and wildflower honey-glazed half chicken served with local farm-fresh vegetables.

Sneyd says that over the coming years, Skyline will be investing \$10 million "to improve the ambience and the guest experience here at Deerhurst, and provide more activities and events than there are right now." Plans are underway for a 165-unit waterfront condo development at the site of the old Lakeside Lodge.

Skyline chairman and founder Gil Blutrigh acquired the Muskoka resort in 2011, with big plans to develop the property into a world-class destination. "My vision is larger. I see Deerhurst basically as Banff," says Blutrigh.

"We're going to add, year by year, more amenities to make this resort well known internationally, with new, innovative ideas. One of them is something like the Scandinave Spa, with hot springs year-round to overcome the slow seasons."

The writer was a guest of Deerhurst Resort, which did not review nor approve the story.

+ IN SEASON

Have you ever driven a dog sled? "A lot of the things that we offer have their winter side," says Deerhurst marketing manager Laura Kennedy. "We even have winter horseback riding and sleigh rides." You can join a snowshoe trek, or hit the cross-country ski trails or the 1.5-km skating trail at Arrowhead Park.

Deerhurst's Christmas in Muskoka package includes a Christmas Eve reception followed by a bountiful buffet dinner. "There's also a Christmas brunch and that's usually the start of all the snow activities," says Kennedy. There's also indoor fun for the kids. "We take Legacy Hall and turn it into a giant indoor play zone."

One noteworthy seasonal event is the Canadian National Pond Hockey Championships. "Imagine 24 ice rinks on the bay, all in action at once," says Kennedy.

3
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3 WAYS TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR AROUND THE WORLD

Not many days from now, the planet will bid farewell to 2015 and welcome 2016 with open arms. We're taking a world tour of the big cities where New Year's is a major cause for celebration. Let's take a look at what's planned in London, New York and Rio de Janeiro. **AFP**



BEN STANSALL/AFP

1 London, U.K.

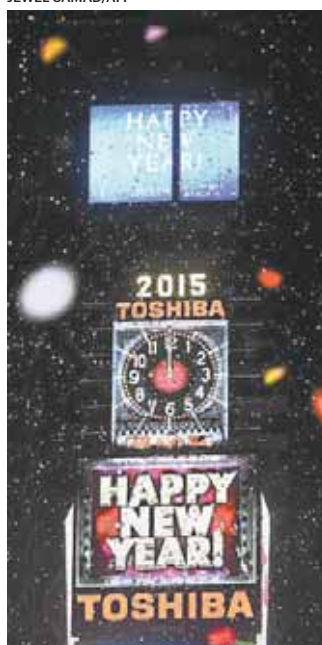
The U.K. capital celebrates New Year's on the banks of the River Thames, opposite the Palace of Westminster. Unfortunately, since 2014 visitors need a ticket to watch the spectacular firework show above Big Ben, a decision taken last year to ensure spectator safety. All the tickets have now been snapped up. The show begins at 5 p.m. and ends at 2 a.m.

The place to be: London Eye, The Queen's Walk

Watch it at home: Those unable to get a ticket will be able to watch the show on the BBC One TV channel, which broadcasts it live.

>> london.gov.uk

JEWEL SAMAD/AFP



2 New York, U.S.A.

The Big Apple is a must-do for those who want to celebrate 2016 in style. The entertainment is concentrated in Times Square where all the famous brightly lit billboards form part of the event. The lineup of performers this year include Carrie Underwood, Demi Lovato, Luke Bryan, and Wiz Khalifa with Charlie Puth.

The place to be: Times Square

Practical tips: It's better to arrive early to be sure to get a place and see the Times Square ball drop. It's advisable to take Sixth or Eighth Avenues to get to Times Square. The police close the adjacent roads.

>> timessquarenyc.org

GUSTAVO PELLIZZON/AG/AF



3 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

New Year's in Rio is the second-biggest popular event in the city, after its mythical carnival. More than two million people attend. There's a firework display at midnight that lasts for around 20 minutes. This year the display and soundtrack will be themed around the Olympics, set to take place in August 2016 in the city.

The place to be: Copacabana Beach

Safety precautions: It's better to wear shoes rather than sandals. As the celebrations take place on the beach and champagne will be flowing, there could be fragments of glass in the sand.

>> rio.com

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Get the most at the last minute



Last-minute holiday shopping can be overwhelming, so experts say it's important to remain thoughtful and find those rare times when malls aren't too crowded. iSTOCK

SHOPPING

It's not too late to find great Christmas gifts

Astrid Van Den Broek

Of course. You waited too long to snag that Dr. Who Tardis adult onesie and now they're all sold out. Now what are you going to get your sister? And when are you going to tackle the rest of your Christmas shopping?

Not to worry — we asked these top shopping bloggers for their best tips on approaching the last-minute Christmas shop.

Stay cool

"Christmas shopping can get overwhelming, especially if you've left it late, so take a minute first to really think of creative or thoughtful gifts to give your loved ones," says Tiffany Anthonia, the blogger behind shopaholicoverhere.blogspot.com.

Plan your shopping

Write down your list of who to shop for and check it twice. "And try to shop at stores that have a variety of product categories to save time when you have an entire list to shop for," adds Anthonia. If you can, also opt for low-traffic shopping times — think during the week as soon as the mall or stores open rather than wading into after-work, rush-hour shopping.

Set your limits

"I'm a fan of the 'do it all at once' approach," says Anne Keery, of UniqueGifter.com. "But if this is a source of stress, give yourself reasonable constraints, like 'Everything needs to come from this mall in the next three hours.' Setting boundaries for yourself can make things a lot less worrisome."

Make alternative arrangements

Your "it" item is out of stock online? "If the retailer has a brick-and-mortar location, see if the item is available in-store because most major retailers like Best Buy, Toys "R" Us and Walmart offer free in-store pickup.

66

Don't grab the first thing you see just because you're on a time crunch.

Tiffany Anthonia
Shopping Blogger

This way you can buy the item online, then get an email within an hour or two when it's ready to be picked up in-store," says Kyle James, founder of rather-be-shopping.com.

Get creative

Or try posting a "Wanted" ad for your must-have item on classified sites such as Craigslist and Kijiji, and also check eBay.

"Alternatively, give a card with the name of the gift and a future delivery date," says Keery.

Or use that gift idea as inspiration. "At least you know what gift direction you wanted to go, so find a gift that's either similar or complementary of that gift you had in mind," says Anthonia. "You might come across an even better gift."



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Give the gift of giving to others

Ylva Van Buuren

Could there be anything more satisfying than finding the perfect gift for those you love? Absolutely! Knowing that the gifts are doing good for others, too. Here are some gift ideas that keep on giving.

Agriculture Pack

A World Vision Agriculture Pack provides seeds, animal feed, tools, training and emergency food

to families in need. It costs \$35, but partnerships with the Canadian government and various companies and agencies double the value to \$70. Visit worldvision.ca/gifts.



1

Charity Gift Cards

When you wrap up a CanadaHelps gift card, the recipient gets to choose which charity to support. There are more than 86,000 registered charities with CanadaHelps ranging from local health and arts and culture to environmental and social services charities. Gift cards start at \$5. Visit canadahelps.org.

Help Syrian Refugees

There are many ways to help a Syrian family coming to Canada. Check in your community to see if a family is being sponsored, make a donation or volunteer your time or services. There is also the Syria Emergency Relief Fund. Visit charity-intelligence.ca/syrian-refugees.



3

Toms Slippers
Women's White

Gold Boucle Slippers are a perfect holiday gift. Plus, for every pair of TOMS shoes you buy, the company provides a new pair of shoes to children in need. To date, the company has given more than 45 million new pairs of shoes to children around the world. \$55/pair. Visit toms.ca or select retailers across Canada.

Shop for Hope

From the exclusive Shop for Hope collection at Winners and HomeSense, the net proceeds from the sale of the Plush Owl go to the Canadian Women's Foundation. \$14.99/each. Available at Winners, winners.ca and HomeSense, homesense.ca.

Gift with a Gift

Choose a gift at Indigo such as the Fair Isle Socks with Faux-Sherpa Lining, and keep the gift going by donating to the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation at the cashier. The charity puts books into the hands of high-needs elementary school children. \$34.50/pair. Visit chapters.indigo.ca.

Help Free the Children

All artisans gifts purchased from Me to We help Free the Children communities overseas. A Ghanaian Brass Halo Necklace, for example, gives a woman access to a prenatal workshop. A Rafiki, made with colourful glass beads threaded onto a stretchy 48-inch cord and worn as a bracelet, necklace, etc., helps educate a child for one year. Necklace,

\$32, Rafiki, \$10. Visit shop.metowe.com.

Angels for Angels

Goods sold by Ten Thousand Villages are made by artisans in marginalized communities around the world, and every purchase helps those communities. At the same time, \$2 from every purchase of the handcrafted Capiz Angel ornament from the Philippines will help fund Breakfast for Learning. Ornament, \$20. Visit tenthousandvillages.ca or select retailers across Canada.



2

Help At-Risk Youth

Until Dec. 31, \$5 from the sale of every Samsung Galaxy Grand Prime purchased from Virgin Mobile will go towards the company's RE*Generation program that helps connect at-risk and homeless youth with training, skills and opportunities for employment.

The slim-line phone with 1.2 GHz Quad Core processor, long-lasting battery and 5 MP camera is \$249 (price varies depending on the plan). Purchase it at Virgin Mobile retail and virginmobile.ca. Virgin Mobile members can also participate by adding 'Change for a Dollar' to their monthly phone bill to donate \$1/month to the cause.

LA-RS Bracelets

Modeled after the Cartier love bracelets, these ONEX-ONE bracelets benefit the onexone.org charity and help feed children a healthy meal. Each set comes with four colours to represent various human races.

Join celebrities Chandler Parsons, Rita Ora, Dip-

lo, Marcus Stroman, Hailey Baldwin and others... and try them on for size. \$30. Visit la-rs.org.

Help WWF

Adopt a Spirit Bear for \$40 and help the World Wide Fund for Nature protect the species. You'll receive a kit containing a plush bear, adoption certificate, poster and reusable WWF tote bag.

There are more than 30 species to choose from. Visit shop.wwf.ca.



5

- 1** World Vision Agriculture Pack, \$35
- 2** Ten Thousand Villages Capiz Angel ornament, \$20
- 3** TOMS White Gold Boucle Slippers, \$55
- 4** Indigo Fair Isle Socks, \$34.50
- 5** World Wide Fund for Nature Spirit Bear, \$40

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Light up the eyes of gamers

Marc Saltzman

'Tis the season to be jolly, and what better way to keep the kids — and kids at heart — happy than with a brand new video game.

If it's console and computer gamers you're shopping for, the following are some thumb-numbing suggestions. Prices are generally \$49.99 to \$74.99, depending on the platform. Be sure to check the ESRB age-rating in the corner of the box before buying.

Kids

Most games let you play content created by other people, but Nintendo's Super Mario Maker (for Nintendo Wii U) also lets you design, create and share your very own Super Mario adventures. Along with the 60-odd playable Nintendo-made levels, the game includes tools to make two-dimensional platforming levels based on previous Super Mario games.

As you might suspect, you'll mostly run from the left side of the screen to the right, leap across platforms, break open



Nintendo's Yoshi's Woolly World

power-ups, climb into pipes, and jump on enemies to destroy them. After you've designed a world, play it through, hand the controller to a sibling or friend, or upload to the online community. You can download other creations, too.

One of the world's hottest kids' franchises is getting a reboot. Activision's Skylanders SuperChargers (for multiple platforms) once again fuses action figures with a video game — the toys come alive on the television screen when placed on the Portal of Power, which is connected to the console — but now there's customizable and upgradeable vehicles, including cars, motorcycles, boats, tanks, helicopters



Star Wars Battlefront

and submarines. The game also introduces 20 new Skylanders characters, but parents will be relieved to learn the game also supports all existing Skylanders characters.

Other kids' games that won't disappoint: Nintendo's Yoshi's Woolly World, Disney's Disney Infinity 3.0, WB Games' LEGO: Dimensions, and Sony's Tearaway Unfolded.

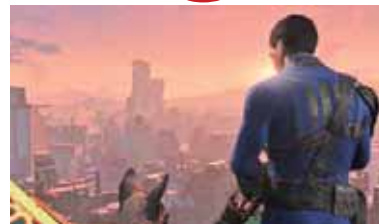
Teens

Launching just ahead of the film Star Wars: Episode VII — The Force Awakens, Star Wars Battlefront from DICE and Electronic Arts (PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Windows PC) drops players into intense intergalactic battles based in iconic Star Wars locations — such as the snowy planet of Hoth — pitting Rebel forces against

the Empire.

Along with playing as characters based on the original movie trilogy, you'll pilot beloved vehicles, as well, ranging from AT-ATs and TIE fighters to speeder bikes and even the Millennium Falcon. The game includes many online multiplayer modes and mission types for dozens of simultaneous players.

Guitar Hero is back after a five-year hiatus and it's nothing short of ambitious. Along with single-player and local multiplayer options, Activision's Guitar Hero Live (for multiple platforms) introduces a mode called GHTV, an always-on 24-hour music video network that lets you log on, strap in and strum to a continually updated collection of music videos and concert footage. That is — instead of the cartoon-like



Bethesda Softworks' Fallout 4

animated bands from previous games — you can rock out to your favorite artists and discover new music, while challenging others for high score.

Other recommended games for teens: Sony's Uncharted: The Nathan Drake Collection, EA Sports' NHL 16, and Activision's Destiny: The Taken King.

Adults

One of the most buzzed about games of the year, Bethesda Softworks' Fallout 4 (Xbox One, PlayStation 4, Windows PC), is the long-awaited return to the beloved single-player, open-world, role-playing game series. The follow-up to 2008's Fallout 3 lets you choose to play as a male or female and select a specific set of skills, and then venture out of a vault 200 years after an

apocalyptic event. Played from a first- or third-person perspective, you can freely roam around huge environments, interface with memorable characters and gain access to more than 50 base weapons and more than 700 modifications. Plus, gamers can take advantage of a deep crafting system to create unique adventures.

The next installment of the legendary sci-fi shooter franchise, Halo 5: Guardians, is the built to showcase the power of Xbox One. Complementing its intense storyline — which can be run with three friends in a cooperative (co-op) mode — this new game focuses heavily on competitive multiplayer. One mode called Warzone challenges up to 24 players to battle on the biggest maps in Halo to date, while taking on multiple objectives including big boss battles, with land and air craft to aid in the fight.

Other worthy games for adults: Ubisoft's Assassin's Creed: Syndicate, CD Projekt Red's The Witcher 3: Witch Hunt, Activision's Call of Duty: Black Ops III, Microsoft Studios/Crystal Dynamics' Rise of the Tomb Raider, and Konami's Metal Gear Solid V: The Phantom Pain.

Consoles that make the gift list



1

Mike Yawney

It doesn't matter how young or old you are; video games continue to be a dominant pastime.

While no new gaming consoles launched this year, some unique limited edition bundles did surface. Here are the top picks for those looking to surprise a gamer on their gift list.



2

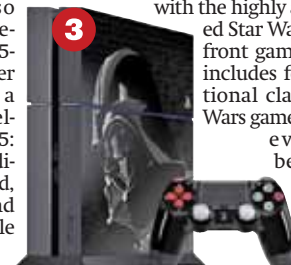
Xbox One Limited Edition Halo 5: Guardians Console - \$549

There is no denying the Halo franchise is a force to be reckoned with, so it comes as no surprise Microsoft is releasing this limited edition Xbox One console for the holidays.

The design of the console itself is inspired by Spartan technology and has a massive 1 TB hard drive to store your games and media. The wireless controller also sees a redesign with a new 3.5-mm headset jack. Other bonus items include a Spartan-themed SteelBook case with Halo 5: Guardians Limited Edition full game download, a Guardian model and exclusive downloadable content.

Star Wars Battlefront PlayStation 4 Console - \$469.99

The ultimate PlayStation bundle for any Star Wars fan, this unique console bears the image of Darth Vader's mask, while the DualShock wireless controller is designed after his chest panel. Not only does this come with the highly anticipated Star Wars Battlefront game, it also includes four additional classic Star Wars games to keep even the best gamers busy over the holidays.



3

New Nintendo 3DS XL - \$229.99

Nintendo's latest handheld console features not only a larger screen for more immersive gameplay, but new technology. Super stable 3D allows for a better experience and wider range of viewing angles. The handheld device also features built-in NFC functionality for communication with Nintendo's new Amiibo figures.

1 Xbox One Limited Edition Halo 5: Guardians Console, \$549

2 New Nintendo 3DS XL, \$229.99

3 Star Wars Battlefront PlayStation 4 Console, \$469.99

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Gift giving the Canadian way, eh?



Todd Lewys

Whether it's a family member, friend or work associate, we all know someone who's wild about all things Canadian. Here's a quick snapshot of some gifts sure to please the person in your life who's a connoisseur of Canadiana.

HBC Olympic 2016 Collection Mittens (\$12) and Toque (\$25)

While wrapping yourself in the



Canadian flag is heartwarming, it can't keep you warm on cold winter days. A pair of Olympic Collection 2016 mittens and an Olympic Collection Canada marled toque, however, can. Combine them

in a gift box, or use them as stocking stuffers. Available at Hudson Bay Company, thebay.com.

Roots Women's Maple Gloves (\$48)

On frigid days, it's imperative to keep your digits in working order, so why not bless the woman in your life with a gift that looks great and will keep her hands from

becoming ice blocks on frigid days: a pair of functional — and fashionable — women's maple gloves. Available at Roots, roots.com.

Roots Men's Lumberjack Boot Sock (\$16.50/pair)

Patriots will love this gift — a pair of thick, cozy socks emblazoned with a maple leaf that come in red, white or blue trim with another Canadian classic — a snow-capped mountain scene. Available at Roots, roots.com.



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Gap Men's Onesie (\$69.95)

Shoveling the driveway or digging out the car after a howling blizzard is a daunting task for even the hardiest Canadian male. This warm thermal onesie will provide him with the protection required to keep muscles warm and limber as they churn their way through the snow. Available at Gap, gapcanada.ca.



— and, most importantly, a red maple leaf and CANADA stenciled boldly on its front flap. Available at zazzle.ca.

Banana Republic Men's Plaid Shirt (\$85)

This shirt is a great choice on during the holiday season. Not only is it festive, but it evokes the classic Canadian lumberjack look — and, it helps keep you warm on sub-zero days. Available at Banana Republic, bananarepublic.ca.

Gap Women's Cable Knit Turtleneck (\$59.95)

Cold Canadian winter days call for extreme measures to stay warm. This cable knit turtleneck is not only festive, but provides a layer of warmth that envelopes the torso and neck. Available at Gap, gapcanada.ca.

Great Canadian Gift Company's Canadian Bacon Scented Soap (\$6.99)

There's nothing much more Canadian than the smell of bacon, so why not bring it from the kitchen into the bathroom. It may not be the scent you think of when taking a shower, but it sure does reek Canada ... and yes, it really does smell like bacon! Available at thegreatcanadiangiftcompany.com.



Great Canadian Gift Company's Canadian Flag Placemat (\$13.99)

There's no better way to show pride in your country than placing a Lady Rosedale Canadian flag placemat across your home's threshold. Available at thegreatcanadiangiftcompany.com.

Zazzle.ca's Red Autumn Canadian Maple Leaf Throw Pillow (\$39.65)

This throw pillow is an accent piece that will add just the right touch of patriotic flavour — and colour — to a living room, den, rec room or cottage. Available at zazzle.ca.

Zazzle.ca's Grunge Canadian Flag Red Maple Leaf Courier Bag (\$139)

This is the perfect gift for those who bleed red and white and love to lug an extra sweater and other paraphernalia around: a cool courier bag with shoulder strap, copious carrying cap-



1 Great Canadian Gift Company's Canadian Flag Placemat (\$13.99)

2 Banana Republic Men's Plaid Shirt (\$85)

3 Zazzle.ca's Red Autumn Canadian Maple Leaf Throw Pillow (\$39.65)

4 Great Canadian Gift Company's Canadian Bacon Scented Soap (\$6.99)

5 Roots Men's Lumberjack Boot Sock (\$16.50/pair)

6 HBC Olympic 2016 Collection Mittens (\$12)

Cleveland Cavaliers guard Iman Shumpert calmly delivered his daughter when his fiancée unexpectedly went into labour in their bathroom

Players in no hurry to wear full-face shield

NHL

Despite latest gory Hamhuis scene, visors are still preferred

The gruesome sight of Dan Hamhuis on the ice with his legs flailing made fellow NHL players cringe. A shot like the one that cracked the Vancouver Canucks defenceman in the face could happen to anyone.

Hamhuis is out two months after surgery to repair facial fractures. Even though he wears a visor like a vast majority of the league now, it couldn't save him when a slap shot from the New York Rangers' Dan Boyle hit him in the jaw from close range.

Only a full-face shield or cage could have prevented that injury. The league and Players' Association only two years ago mandated visors for incoming players, but there could be a day in the distant future when full facial protection like in youth, college and women's hockey, is commonplace in the NHL.

"It's probably the next step," San Jose Sharks coach Peter DeBoer said. "No one thought helmets were coming in

and they did, and then no one thought visors were coming in and they did. I'm sure there will be a day down the road one day here where it is (normal). I think it's a ways off. It'll get here one day."

One Eastern Conference executive said no matter the rules on visors there will always be an outlier injury that occurs and doesn't think it's an immediate problem that needs to be addressed. Ian Laperriere had his playing career ended by a puck to the eye that caused a concussion, but the Philadelphia Flyers assistant doesn't believe face shields are necessary. "It's something that the game is faster and the puck's flying out there," Laperriere said by phone Thursday. "But if you think about it, it doesn't happen that often."

Canucks coach Willie Desjardins said recently that "you forget how vicious the game is sometimes" and recalled Hamhuis experiencing a near miss of a puck



The Vancouver Canucks' Dan Hamhuis after being struck in the mouth by the puck. DARYLL DYCK/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

whizzing by his visor two games earlier. "That happens on a regular basis and it's probably surprising that maybe more guys don't get hit," Desjardins said.

Current players are conflicted on the subject but are in agreement that full face shields aren't coming any time soon. Toronto Maple Leafs defenceman Matt Hunwick called the Hamhuis injury a "freak accident," even if similar plays happen often.

Go into any locker-room and there are a handful of players who remember losing teeth or breaking bones from an errant

“

I think it's a ways off. It'll get here one day.

Sharks coach Peter DeBoer on the full-face shield

stick or a puck. It's basically the only way anyone in the NHL now puts on a full face shield.

Philadelphia Flyers forward Sam Gagner, who recently suffered a concussion when his head hit the ice, remembers

breaking his jaw in 2013 and was no fan of wearing the full shield.

"It hinders you," Gagner said.

At the world junior hockey championship, any player under the age of 18 has to wear a full face shield. That included Connor McDavid at the 2014 tournament. Sharks centre Joe Thornton is one of the remaining players to go without a visor in the NHL and said when he was 14 he couldn't wait to take it off once he was allowed to. Leafs forward Shawn Matthias hasn't worn one in 12 years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Orridge nixes move by Als coach

Noel Thorpe's reported resignation as defensive co-ordinator of the Montreal Alouettes was declared invalid Thursday by the Canadian Football League.

A statement from commissioner Jeffrey Orridge said Thorpe, who was also assistant head coach, cannot get out of his contract to join another club without written approval from the Alouettes. Thorpe was expected to accept the same job titles with Edmonton.

It also said that the Eskimos "did not violate the existing CFL by-laws and will not be subject to any discipline in this matter."

Orridge placed a moratorium on the movement of coaches between teams on Wednesday after reports that Thorpe decided to leave the Alouettes to join the Eskimos, despite having two years left on his contract. It prohibits coaches under contract signing with another club without his written approval.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



MEDIATION

On Monday, Ottawa offensive co-ordinator Jason Maas resigned to become head coach in Edmonton, and the Redblacks demanded compensation. Orridge has sent the matter to mediation.

All women hockey players, such as Canada's Geraldine Heaney, wear a full face shield. As do all U-18s. GETTY IMAGES

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SOCCER

Buchanan usurps Sinclair as Canada's top player

Kadeisha Buchanan had yet to reach double digits in age when Christine Sinclair started her run of 11 straight Canadian female player of the year awards in 2004.

Sinclair, who also won the award in 2000, is still the captain of the Canadian women's soccer team. But the 32-year-old's stranglehold on the top player award ended Thursday when Buchanan was voted BMO Player of the Year.



Kadeisha Buchanan
GETTY IMAGES

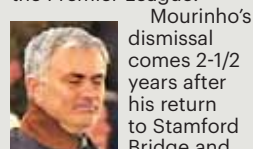
"It's definitely quite a shock because obviously Christine has won it so many times," the 20-year-old defender who put her stamp on the world stage at the 2015 Women's World Cup, said.

"It's a bit of change to get used to. Like wow.... It's obviously a great honour," she added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mourinho takes fall for Chelsea's nightmare start

Jose Mourinho's second tenure as Chelsea manager abruptly ended on Thursday with the team languishing just above the relegation zone only seven months after winning the Premier League.



Jose Mourinho
GETTY IMAGES

Mourinho's dismissal comes 2-1/2 years after his return to Stamford Bridge and only four months into a new four-year contract signed after winning his third league title with Chelsea.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Series in Shapiro's sights

MLB OFF-SEASON

New front-office boss says Blue Jays are a title contender

Compared to the last few years, the Toronto Blue Jays have had a relatively quiet off-season.

There have been a few signings and some trade activity but the Blue Jays have so far steered clear of the free-agent frenzy and any blockbuster moves. Las Vegas still likes Toronto's chances in 2016, with most sports books pegging them among the favourites to win the American League.

New team president Mark Shapiro is also feeling bullish about the Blue Jays' chances.

"It feels like a team capable of winning the World Series next year," Shapiro said Thursday.

The Boston Red Sox have emerged as a slight favourite in the AL after the signing of former Blue Jays ace David Price, who inked a seven-year deal worth \$217 million US. The Blue Jays are in the mix of AL contenders with the Houston Astros, Kansas City Royals and Texas Rangers.

Toronto is coming off a 93-69 season and its first playoff appearance in 22 years. They fell to the Royals in the ALCS in six games.

Toronto will bring back argu-



Top playoff performer Marco Estrada will provide stability to the starting rotation when the Jays return to action in the spring.

CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ably the most feared offence in the major leagues in 2016, anchored by sluggers Jose Bautista, Edwin Encarnacion and AL MVP Josh Donaldson. On the pitching front, the Jays lost Price to free agency but re-signed Marco Estrada, signed free agent J.A. Happ and acquired Jesse Chavez in a trade with Oakland.

10-1

On website Bet365, Toronto and Boston are co-favourites among AL teams to win the Fall Classic at 10-1.

New GM Ross Atkins said the team has been engaged in discussions on several fronts.

"We are going to stay open-minded and if there is a way that we can creatively just add depth to our pitching or fortify our pitching staff, we'll do it," Shapiro, Atkins and assistant

GM Tony LaCava met with members of the Toronto chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America on Thursday.

Shapiro said the possibility of Rogers Centre moving from artificial turf to grass is being considered but there are no firm plans in place.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

No joking around for 'Batman' showdown

Odell Beckham Jr. promises that no matter what cleats he wears against the Panthers on Sunday, his matchup with Josh Norman could be one for the books.

It would have been apropos had the Giants wide receiver reprimed Monday night's Miami footwear that carried the image of The Joker as a

a counter to Norman's "Batman" nickname.

But Beckham said Thursday he doesn't want to play the name game against Carolina (13-0).

"I don't need no Batman or anything else," said Beckham, who wears a pair of custom cleats every game, thus leaving him with an interesting collection at career's end. "I'll be able to look back and remember special moments, like when did I wear these? It's a lot of fun."



Odell Beckham Jr. was in a villainous mood on Monday night in Miami. GETTY IMAGES



Sunday's choice could stick out, especially if Beckham Jr. has a big game against the Panthers' shutdown cornerback. Norman

has four interceptions this year, two returned for touchdowns. But just as impressive is the way he has neutralized top receivers.

Houston's DeAndre Hopkins, Dallas' Dez Bryant, and Atlanta's Julio Jones have 215 catches among them for 2,969 yards and 19 TDs. Against Norman, however, they have a mere seven receptions for 63 yards and no TDs.

1,320

Odell Beckham Jr. sits third in NFL receiving yards with 1,320.

It amounts to a matchup of Beckham's speed against Norman's smarts and aggressiveness.

"Josh is a heck of a player in his own right," Carolina tight end Greg Olsen said. "He doesn't back down from anybody."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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RECIPE Mexican Egg Bake



PHOTO: MAMA USNETE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

• 1/2 cup Greek yogurt

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 F.
2. In a medium-sized skillet, warm olive oil and sauté the onion and garlic until they begin to soften. Add spices and stir; cook 2 minutes. Add tomatoes and black beans. Use the back of a wooden spoon to break up tomatoes. Simmer for about 15 or 20 minutes until sauce has thickened.
3. Gently crack the eggs on top of the sauce. Place skillet in the oven for 8 to 10 minutes, or until egg whites are cooked but yolks are runny.
4. Remove pan from oven and allow to cool a bit before placing on a trivet on the table. Scoop each serving gently, being sure to get an egg and a good amount of the bean sauce. Place extras — avocado, yogurt, cheese and cilantro — on table so everyone can DIY toppings.

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A zesty tomato sauce punctuated with avocado and cilantro is the perfect bed for runny, baked eggs.

Ready in

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes

Serves 4

Ingredients

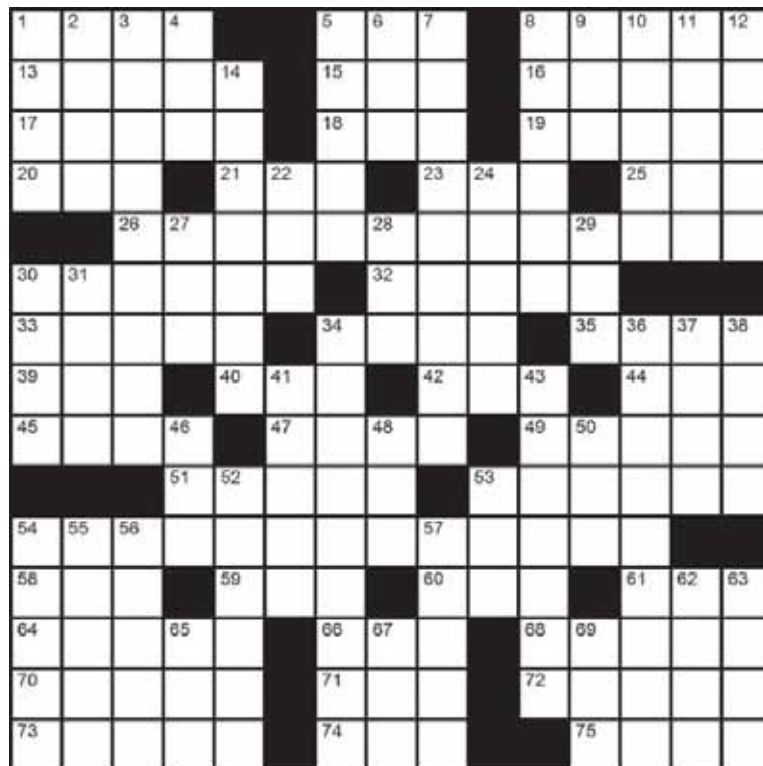
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp red pepper or cayenne
- 1 x 28 oz can tomatoes
- 1 x 14 oz can black beans, rinsed
- 5 eggs
- Small handful of cilantro, chopped
- 1/2 avocado, sliced
- 1/2 cup cheddar, grated

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Math instrument [abbr.]
5. Illuminated
8. 5th Dimension member Marilyn
13. Tropical greeting
15. Iron
16. Green spaces for homes
17. Particular parrot
18. Nourished
19. Fix that squeak once more
20. Pitcher's stat.
21. Boat's stern
23. Nero's 511
25. Key: French
26. Character in #14-Down: 2 wds.
30. Fashion designer Ms. Johnson
32. Tolerate
33. Bird-like
34. "Tres _"
35. High-five-to-high-five hit
39. Sleep state, commonly
40. Cardinals player's baseball cap letters
42. Actor's representative [abbr.]
44. Diminutive suffix
45. Was aware
47. Remorseful person
49. Britannica, e.g.
51. Not _ (Not so far)
53. Crowd reactions to corny jokes
54. Villains-in-white-armour in #14-Down
58. Left tap's meaning
59. Haunted house hooow!
60. Feminine suffix



61. Lobster _ Diavolo (Seafood dish with pasta)
64. Book's beginning, briefly
66. " _ _ Have to Say the Words?" by Bryan Adams
68. Science fiction being
70. Clay pigeon

- shooting
71. 'Ether' suffix
72. It's often served with tongs
73. Abrasive
74. Sanctions, short-style
75. Gladiator's 951

DOWN

1. Arrived

2. Banned orchard spray
3. When a TV show airs regionally: 2 wds.
4. Repeated-word dance
5. Former factory living spaces
6. Wrath
7. Classic toy from Santa: 2 wds.

8. Immeasurable
9. Flight simulators co. headquartered in Saint-Laurent, QC
10. _ _ Pot (Slow cooker)
11. Wearer of the black tutu in Swan Lake
12. Canadian doctor, the 'Father of Modern Medicine', William _

- (b.1849 - d.1919)
14. "Star Wars: The Force _" (2015)
22. Tina of "Sisters" (2015)
24. Type of fighter craft in #14-Down, _ _
27. _ _ Today (American newspaper)
28. Trombonist Mr. Winding
29. _ Miserables
30. Tree trunk topping
31. All square
34. Canadian band that formed in 1984: 2 wds.
36. Production company behind #14-Down
37. Kirk _ "Superman" (1948) star
38. Bench press muscles, commonly
41. _ _ understand (Attempt at comprehending)
43. Nobel-winning Mother, and namesakes
46. Combat reason
48. Ike's WWII arena
50. Scand. land
52. Not lumpy or bumpy
53. Car's navigation aid, commonly
54. _ _ kebab
55. Toy truck brand
56. Furry mammal that can swim
57. Trompe l' _ (Visual illusions)
62. Authentic
63. "The King _ _" (1956)
65. Home addr.
67. Tree of acorns
69. Lake: French

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries March 21 - April 20

If you haven't done anything marvelous yet don't worry because there is still time — just. Make your move this weekend, certainly before the Sun changes signs on the 22nd.

♉ Taurus April 21 - May 21

Changes are coming, changes that will enable you to move in a new, exciting direction when the Sun moves in your favour early next week. Do only what your heart tells you to.

♊ Gemini May 22 - June 21

Geminis are supposed to be daring. Geminis are supposed to take risks. So what happened? Life is meant to be a great adventure. Make today the day when you re-discover your true nature again.

♋ Cancer June 22 - July 23

When the Sun moves into your opposite sign of Capricorn in a few days you'll be at the halfway point of your solar year. It's a good time to take stock of how far you've come.

♌ Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

This is no time to slow down. There is a lot to be done before the Sun leaves the most dynamic area of your chart on the 2nd. Creatively, and romantically, there is no limit to what you can accomplish.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Don't waste time and energy on senseless disputes with people you don't respect. Focus on more important matters between now and when the Sun changes signs next Tuesday.

♎ Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Your present course is taking you in the wrong direction and you're missing opportunities simply because you're too stubborn to admit it. There's still time to get back on track.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Stand up for your rights and don't let anyone tell you what you can and cannot do. What others don't seem to understand is that you cannot be bribed or pressured to go against your principles. Flattery, of course, is harder to defend against.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

The Sun remains in your sign a few more days, so make the most of it. Take every opportunity that comes your way and today can be special.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Recent weeks have been far from easy and there will be more challenges to come over the next few days. However, come Tuesday, when the Sun moves into your sign, things will start to get better in a big way.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

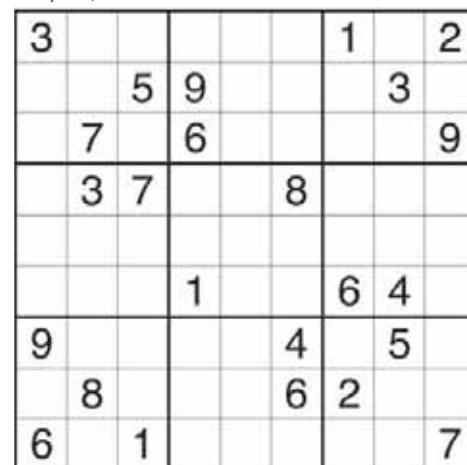
Steer clear of other people's fights and feuds — there is nothing you can gain from them. If you stick your nose in where it is not wanted you're inviting someone to take a poke at it!

♓ Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

Once again you're allowing yourself to be dragged into situations that are not good for you. Make an effort to put distance between you and those who would use you.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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